THE NEW
SUNDAY EXPRESS

BENGALURU • SUNDAY • APRIL 05, 2026 • ₹12.00 • PAGES 28 • LATE CITY EDITION

Delhi Capitals' Sameer Rizvi in action against Mumbai Indians during the IPL T20 match in New Delhi on Saturday | PTI

RIZVI POWERS DC TO 6-WICKET WIN OVER MI

Impact substitute Sameer Rizvi continued his red-hot form with another fine half-century as an all-round Delhi Capitals outclassed Mumbai Indians by six wickets in their first home game of the 2026 IPL season in New Delhi on Saturday. Chasing 163, the 22-year-old Rizvi (90 off 51 balls) took apart the MI attack with a fluent knock studded with seven fours and as many sixes | P15

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

Social Welfare Department

"IN THE PROGRESS OF THE COUNTRY LIES OUR PROGRESS;
IN ITS SALVATION, OUR SALVATION AND IN ITS EMANCIPATION, OUR EMANCIPATION"

- Dr. Babu Jagjivan Ram

119th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Garlanding the Statue of

Messiah of Green Revolution, National Leader, Former Deputy Prime Minister of India

Dr. BABU JAGJIVAN RAM

April 5, 2026, Sunday at 10.00 AM

West Gate of Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru

Stage Event

Time - 10.30 AM

Venue - Grand Steps of Vidhana Soudha

As is enshrined in our constitution, **"to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture"** - is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country.

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Secretary to Government
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ALMANAC TODAY

- **Sunday:** 05.04.2026 • **Year:** Parabhava • **Ayana:** Uththarayana
- **Ritu:** Vasantha • **Masa:** Chaitra • **Paksha:** Krishna • **Tithi:** Thrutheeya 9.48 am
- **Nakshatra:** Vishaka 10.11 pm • Moon in Vrischika Rashi • **Rahukaala:** 04:30 pm to 06:00 pm
- **Gulikakala:** 03:00 pm to 04:30 pm • **Yamaganda:** 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm

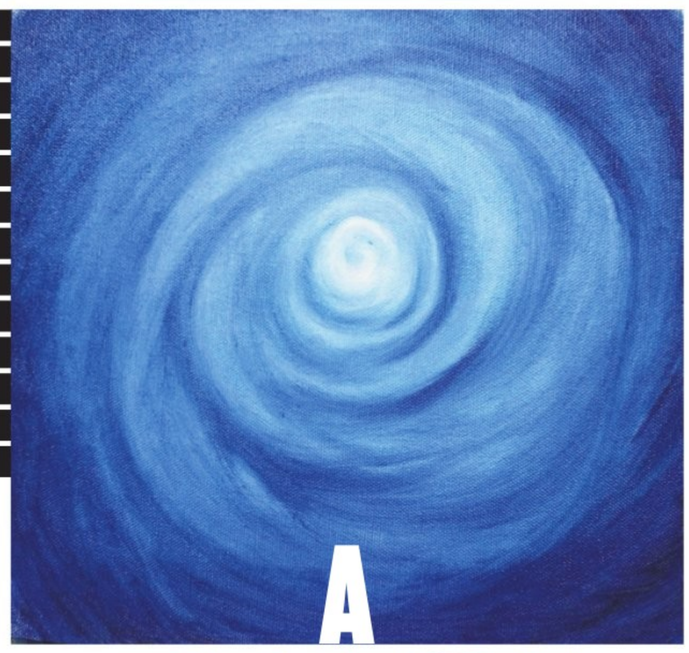
MIN 22°C | MAX 32°C

FORECAST Showers early. Cloudy

Sunrise 06.13 am | Sunset 06.31 pm | Moonrise 09.19 pm | Moonset 08.06 am

'Art from the Heart' offers an inclusive platform for artists with disabilities across India. A pioneering initiative by Sravani Ramachandran, the fourth edition of the unusual tryst with art is being held at Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath on Sunday

A BRUSH WITH DIFFERENCE



GAYATHRI M KURUP @ Bengaluru

WHAT began as a deeply personal journey of healing has today evolved into a growing, inclusive platform for artists with disabilities across India. Art from the Heart, founded by Sravani Ramachandran, is not just an exhibition. It is a space where art speaks louder than limitations.

Ramachandran's journey with art started after a near-fatal accident in 2011 that resulted in a spinal cord injury. With long hours of recovery and limited mobility, she turned to painting as a way to cope. Initially, art was a distraction from pain. Over time, what began as therapy transformed into a source of confidence, purpose, and eventually, a larger vision.

That vision took shape when she encountered artists with disabilities at Chitra Santhe. Among them was a visually impaired artist whose work left a lasting impact. Someone who has never seen colour yet creates art deeply moved her and strengthened her resolve to create a dedicated platform. At a time when such spaces were limited, she felt compelled to build one herself.

The first edition of Art from the Heart began with just 12 artists. Today, in its fourth edition, the exhibition has expanded to include around 40 artists, with nearly 50 participants including collectives and young creators. The upcoming exhibition will be held at Devaraj Urs Gallery at Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath, on April 4 and 5.

The exhibition features a wide range of artistic expressions including oil paintings, acrylics, watercolours, ink work, mandala art, and handcrafted pieces. What sets it apart is not just the diversity of mediums, but the diversity of lived experiences behind each artwork. Participating artists include individuals with hearing and speech impairments, autism, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, spinal cord injuries, and other neurological conditions. Some paint with their hands, others with their feet, and a few with their mouths, each work reflecting determination and creativity.

Ramachandran says the platform is intentionally inclusive. Judging art across such varied experiences can be difficult, so her focus remains on giving as many artists as possible an opportunity to showcase their work. This ensures that the exhibition remains open, accessible, and representative.

Artists not only sell their work, but also gain confidence and visibility. Many have gone on to receive commissioned projects, collaborate with fellow artists and participate in other exhibitions. For some, selling their first artwork becomes a turning point

Sravani Ramachandran, founder, Art from the Heart

Beyond the display of art, Art from the Heart has become a space for connection and growth. Artists not only sell their work but also gain confidence and visibility. Many have gone on to receive commissioned projects, collaborate with fellow artists, and participate in other exhibitions. For some, selling their first artwork becomes a turning point, proving themselves that people perceive them more than their disabilities but for the artist in them who can create something which others cannot.

The initiative also highlights the importance of financial independence. While some artists are employed, others rely on such platforms as a source of income. By directly connecting artists with buyers, the exhibition allows them to monetise their work while gaining recognition. Over time, the initiative has expanded beyond annual exhibitions. Collaborations with public spaces such as malls have helped increase visibility and reach wider audiences. These efforts have opened up more opportunities for artists to engage with the public and sustain their creative journeys.

Despite its growth, the initiative was initially entirely funded by Ramachandran's family and friends, and continues to rely largely on their support, along with contributions from a few private companies. With greater backing, she hopes to assist artists with travel and accommodation, while also expanding the scale of the exhibition to reach more participants across the country.

Looking ahead, Ramachandran envisions Art from the Heart growing into a larger national platform, featuring over 100 artists and building stronger collaborations with organisations and corporates. She also hopes to reach artists in rural areas who may not yet have access to such platforms.

At its core, the initiative is about changing perception. People with disabilities, she says, want to be recognised for who they are and what they can create. Through Art from the Heart, she hopes audiences will look beyond disability and see the talent, effort, and individuality of each artist.

In a world that often focuses on limitations, Ramachandran asks you to clean that tainted glass of your window and see the artists for the works that they have created and the quiet strength of those who continue to create despite challenges.

Members of Pyaas Foundation unveil a plaque at Gajapati village in Belagavi

Quenching Belagavi's 'Pyaas'

Pyaas Foundation, a people-driven movement launched in 2016, has set an example of water conservation in North Karnataka

SUNIL PATIL @ Belagavi

THE summer of 2016 left many villages parched and people struggled for drinking water in Belagavi district. That was when a small group of youngsters chose not to wait for help, and decided to find a solution to the crisis. That led to the creation of Pyaas Foundation, a people-driven movement that has become an inspiring example of rural water conservation in North Karnataka.

What started as a conversation among seven like-minded alumni of St Paul's School in Belagavi soon turned into action. Within 15 minutes, the group mobilised Rs 60,000 and started supplying drinking water to people through tankers. They soon realised that their effort will not be a permanent solution. "We understood that water supply through tankers was only a temporary relief and a permanent solution had to be found," said Dr Madhav Prabhu, president of Pyaas.

The group shifted its focus from crisis management to sustainable water conservation, embarking on a mission to revive traditional water sources that once sustained the region.

Reviving lakes and wells

Though Belagavi has many lakes and wells, most of them have dried up due to neglect, silt and encroachment.

Pyaas started working on rejuvenation of those lakes and wells. Till now, it has successfully restored 14 lakes and five ancient wells in the district. Work is on to rejuvenate a lake at Halshiwadi village in Khanapur taluk and a well at Nazar Camp in Belagavi.

Pyaas' most prominent projects are at Prabhu Nagar in Khanapur taluk, Bailwad and Bhavihal in Bailhongal taluk, Macche, Mannikeri, Sulaga, Aralikatti and Mannikeri in Belagavi taluk, and Nagarmunoli and Kittur in Chikkodi taluk. These projects now help recharge groundwater, support agriculture, and provide drinking water to people.

Dhobi Ghat lake

The Dhobi Ghat project in Belagavi stands out as a symbol of innovation and determination. Before restoration, it was just a garbage dump. Pyaas created its first man-made lake on two acres of land here. This water body now supports local biodiversity. This transformation changed people's view on the potential of abandoned spaces.

Members of Pyaas Foundation supply drinking water at Gajapati village in Belagavi district

Seasonal strategy

Pyaas follows a practical and effective work cycle. Post-monsoon to early summer is the peak execution period. Lakes are desilted and deepened when water levels are low. Natural recharge systems are strengthened before the onset of monsoon. This ensures maximum water retention and groundwater recharge.

Nala rejuvenation

Pyaas has a new project to restore a 6km nala (channel) that passes through the Camp area in Belagavi. After removing silt from the nala, a rainwater harvesting system will be built. Green vegetation corridors will be developed along the nala, providing habitat for birds and small animals. Efforts will be made to introduce boating to integrate ecology with recreation.

Moat revival

Another project, which is being planned, is to rejuvenate the historic moat around the Belagavi Fort. Since the property is under the custody of the Defence Ministry, Pyaas is waiting for clearance for this project.

"These projects are large and need cooperation from the government as well as people. We are confident that they will not only help beautify Belagavi city, but also strengthen the ecosystem," Dr Prabhu said.

Public trust

Pyaas attributes its achievements to public trust. Registered under the cooperative department, it has ensured transparency in its operations. The group's credibility has encouraged donors, corporates and organisations to support its initiatives financially and technically.

What began with a handful of classmates has now grown into a structured organisation with committed leadership and volunteers.

Pyaas office-bearers

Dr Madhav Prabhu, president; Abhimanyu Daga, vice-president; Preeti Kore; Doddwad, secretary; Avdhut Samant, joint secretary; and Deepak Oulkar, Laxmikant, Suryakant Hindalgekar and Rohan Kulkarni, directors.

Impose fines on those encroaching footpaths, GBA chief tells officials

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

GREATER Bengaluru Authority (GBA) Chief Commissioner Maheshwar Rao instructed officials to take action against those who have encroached upon footpaths along Old Madras Road by imposing fines and clearing the encroachments, while also ensuring the development of smooth and accessible pedestrian pathways.

He gave the instructions during an inspection conducted on Saturday during along Old Madras Road, from Swami Vivekananda Metro Station to Ulsoor Lake, within the jurisdiction of the Bengaluru Central City Corporation.

He directed that teams be deployed to undertake mass cleaning drives on footpaths. Officials were also instructed to repair damaged slabs and curb stones on footpaths to facilitate smooth pedestrian movement.

"It was noticed that waste was being dumped at a damaged portion of the MEG compound wall on Old Madras Road. Near the Anjaneya Temple, footpaths had been encroached upon by a nursery, a granite shop and along Murphy Road," he said.

Commissioner Rajendra Cholan of the Central City Corporation instructed officials to install information boards to keep the public informed about the ongoing projects at Ulsoor Lake in the corporation limits. "Ulsoor Lake, spread across 106 acres, is undergoing comprehensive development at a cost of Rs 33.50 crore. The Executive Engineer informed that the works will be completed before the monsoon," he said and added the construction of a bridge connecting the adjoining park to the lake is nearly complete.

PLAN OF ACTION:

Bamboo saplings should be planted and maintained along footpaths on Old Madras Road. Tippers should be procured and used for sanitation work instead of tractors. Shoulder drains along roadsides must be desilted before the monsoon. Unauthorised construction on BMRCL land at the 100 Feet Road junction must be removed immediately by BMRCL. Road damage caused by BWSSB wall issues must be repaired. Vehicles parked on footpaths must be cleared and fines imposed on violators.

FROM STRUGGLE TO SUCCESS

Inspiring stories shine at BCU convocation

RASHMI PATIL @Bengaluru

AMONG the 73 gold medalists who were honoured at the 5th annual convocation at Dr Manmohan Singh Bengaluru City University (BCU) was Syed Rizwan (22), a visually impaired student from Acharya Patashala College of Arts and Science affiliated to the varsity.

Asma

Rizwan

Sanjana

Rizwan received a gold medal for scoring 84% in BA (Music). He said, "The entire credit goes to the faculty of my college. It was because of their efforts that I earned a degree along with a gold medal. I aspire to be in the Indian Administrative Service and at the same time, achieve excellence in music."

"I faced a lot of challenges while learning music – especially while learning the swaras. However, I overcame the challenges with the help of my teachers and technology. Our college provides us with Braille and PDF notes, audio notes and much more. All these were given to me for free. My father and elder brother passed away recently due to health issues. My mother is a daily wage labourer and I have already started working full time as a telecaller with Samarthanam Trust for the Blind."

Another gold medalist is Asma A, whose father is an electrician and mother is a homemaker. A first-generation college goer in her family, she bagged the first rank in MA (Economics). What made her stand out is that she has studied in government schools and colleges throughout her academics.

Asma said, "I studied BA at BBMP first grade college in Frazer town, and until Class 10, I studied in Government Kannada Higher Primary School at Pottery Town. I am the first-generation college goer in my family. I aspire to become a police officer and have started preparing for the competitive exams."

MS Sanjana, another student whose father runs an electrical repair shop and mother is a homemaker, received two gold medals. She scored the highest marks in inorganic chemistry in MSc. Sanjana was honoured with the prestigious Dr EG Leelamani Gold Medal and Prof NM Nanje Gowda Gold Medal.

Another student, Sneha T, not only earned the first rank in her MSc in chemistry but also won four gold medals for her outstanding academic achievements. Similarly, Abhishek Sriram, a BCom student from Sheshadripuram Institute of Commerce and Management also received three gold medals. In all, 37,393 students -21,912 girls and 15,458 boys with degree and rank certificates.

On the occasion, Governor and Chancellor Thawarchand Gehlot, Vice Chancellor Ramesh B, Registrar Naveen Joseph and DRDO Director General Dr Binay Kumar Das also awarded honorary doctorate to six eminent personalities. They included cricketer and president of Karnataka State Cricket Association BK Venkatesh Prasad (Sports), Dr. K.Govindaraj (Sports administration), Arjun Janya (Music), Dr M Mohan Alva (Educationist), TK Narayanappa (Educationist), and Bava Mohammed Farookh (industrialist).

Adapt or fall behind: DRDO chief to students

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

"Embrace the change and accept every single challenge to taste success. Your generation is going to change career at least three or four times. So be prepared to rescale yourself. You have to act radically different," Dr Binay Kumar Das, Director General, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), told the students on Saturday.

He was addressing the graduates at the Dr Manmohan Singh Bengaluru City University's fifth annual convocation. He added, "If you wish to excel in today's world, then be technology-focused. We are in for a unique digital revolution, the fourth revolution. Under this situation be prepared for changes."

EXPRESS READ

MNK Rao Park, DYES Vidyanagar win basketball titles

Bengaluru: MNK Rao Park BC (boys) and DYES Vidyanagar (girls) emerged champions in the State Junior Boys and Girls Championship for the DN Rajanna Trophy organised by the Karnataka State Basketball Association (KSBBA) conducted at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium on Saturday. Association president and MLC K Govindaraj felicitated the winning teams and distributed the trophies and prizes. The winners in both categories received cash prizes of Rs 30,000, while the runners-up were awarded Rs 20,000 and the third-place teams Rs 10,000 each. In the boys' final, MNK Rao Park BC defeated Beagles BC 80-68 in extra time after a closely contested match ended level at full time. In the girls' final, DYES Vidyanagar edged past Blore-Vanguardas 77-74.

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PHARMA EXPORTS AT $28 BN TILL FEB, MAY SEE GROWTH IN RUPEE TERMS

India's pharma exports stood at over $28 billion up to February in the last financial year, recording a growth of nearly 6%, a top official said

FORMULATIONS, BIOLOGICALS DRIVE GROWTH

Despite global challenges, pharmaceutical exports have been among the few sectors to maintain growth momentum, K Raja Bhanu, Director General of the Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India (Pharmexcil), said. The 5.9% year-on-year export growth was led by formulations, biologicals, vaccines and AYUSH products, he added

TARIFFS LED TO HIGHER PROCUREMENT IN U.S.

- Rajesh Agrawal, Secretary in the Department of Commerce, noted that exports would show growth in rupee terms as the Indian currency continues to weaken against the US dollar
- Tariff-related issues in 2025 led to higher medicine procurement worth $1.6 bn in the US, Pharmexcil Chairman Namit Joshi said

34%

OF INDIA'S PHARMACEUTICAL EXPORTS ARE DIRECTED TOWARDS THE U.S.

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Amid search for US airman, Don issues Iran 48-hr ultimatum

AGENCIES @ Washington/Dubai

US President Donald Trump on Saturday threatened that hell would "reign down" on Iran if it didn't open the Strait of Hormuz within 48 hours.

"Remember when I gave Iran ten days to MAKE A DEAL or OPEN UP THE HORMUZ STRAIT," Trump wrote on his Truth Social platform. "Time is running out—48 hours before all Hell will reign (sic) down on them," the president said, referring to an ultimatum issued on March 26.

Trump's latest threat came as the US continued its search for a missing crew member of a US F15E fighter jet downed by Iran. It was the first a US aircraft is shot down by enemy fire in over 20 years.

Reports said armed Iranians have joined the hunt after the state media announced a "precious prize" for those finding the US airman. If Iran manages to capture the crew member, it would give Tehran more leverage in potential peace talks with the US.

Confirming that Iran shot down the US warplane, Trump said it won't affect peace talks. "No, not at all. No, it's war. We're in war," he said.

Another US aircraft and two helicopters were hit by Iran while conducting a search for the downed F-15E's airman. A-10 Warthog—a type of aircraft designed for providing close air support—was downed near the Strait of Hormuz on Friday. *Reuters* reported that the aircraft crashed in Kuwait. As per reports, the pilot ejected and is safe.Two Black Hawk helicopters were also hit. The choppers managed to exit Iranian airspace after being hit.

These incidents come days after Trump declared that Iran has no functional air defences left after intense US-Israel attacks.

Mohammad Ghalibaf, the speaker of Iran's parliament, mocked the Trump administration, saying the "war they started has now been downgraded from regime change to Hey! Can anyone find our pilots?"

As of Friday, 365 US service members have been wounded in action, data released by the Pentagon shows. These include 247 Army soldiers, 63 Navy sailors and 19 Marines.

Meanwhile, Pakistan rejected reports that its initiative to facilitate talks between the US and Iran to end the ongoing conflict had hit obstacles after the initial exchange of peace proposals. P12

An apartment building struck by an Iranian missile in Petah Tikva, Israel on Saturday | AP

DAY 36
WAR WATCH

US-Israeli strikes hit 30 universities

US-Israeli strikes have hit more than 30 universities across Iran since the war broke out in late February, Iran's science minister said on Saturday. "To date, more than 30 universities have been directly targeted," Hossein Simai Sarraf told reporters during a visit to the Shahid Beheshti University in northern Tehran, which was struck on Friday

Hanging glaciers a real threat to millions in Himalayas: Study

THREAT ALERT

Officials from the National Disaster Management Authority, Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Earth Science and scientists from IISc recently held a meeting in which a series of suggestions was listed.

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

AN ongoing study by glaciologists has sounded an alert about at least 858 'hanging glaciers' across the 2,500km-long Himalayan range in India, posing a serious threat to lives and properties of millions living in hamlets, villages and towns located downhill in the mountainous region.

Hanging glaciers are small and steep and are found on mountain slopes and cliff edges. They are extremely unstable and vulnerable to climate change. Experts said the havoc created by them when they break is bigger because of the volume of water and ice stored in them. Glaciologists raised the alert for a catastrophe especially in summer, as melting is faster and loss of life and property can be higher because locals and tourists are present in larger numbers in the region. Elevated warming in the Himalayas has intensified this hazard, the experts have pointed out.

Data collated in the study by experts from the Bengaluru-based Divecha Centre for Climate Change (DCCC) over the last two years has revealed that, so far, of the 858 hanging glaciers found and assessed, 99 are in the Yamuna basin, 219 in the Alaknanda basin, 261 in the Bhagirathi basin and 279 in the Kali basin. The cumulative water stored in the glaciers is 3,236 gigatonnes. CONTINUED ON: P6

MISTRY PETITION

Venu Srinivasan quits Hirabai Tata Trust

BENN KOCHUVEEDAN @ Mumbai

POWER struggle within the Tata Trusts appears to have intensified with its senior-most vice-chairman Venu Srinivasan resigning from the Hirabai Tata Trust. His resignation came hours after former trustee Mehli Mistry moved the Charity Commissioner, seeking the ouster of Srinivasan and another vice-chairman, Vijay Singh, from the Bai Hirabai Tata Navsari Charitable Institution on the grounds that they are non-Parsis.

While Mistry's petition pertains to this relatively lesser-known trust, its implications could extend to over a dozen entities within the Tata Trusts ecosystem. In his petition, Mistry also challenged his own ouster from the trusts last October, arguing that the votes cast by Srinivasan and Singh — who he claims were ineligible — should be deemed invalid. Mistry had earlier challenged his removal before the Charity Commissioner in November but withdrew the plea within a week and resigned, stating he no longer had any interest in the trusts.

Srinivasan, chairman emeritus of TVS Motor, reportedly quit the trust on Saturday.

EXPRESS READ

5 juveniles, 3 others held for stealing phones at IPL match

Bengaluru: Eight more persons, including five juveniles, were arrested by the Cubbon Park police and Central Crime Branch sleuths in connection with mobile phone thefts in and around the Chinnaswamy Stadium during the IPL match between RCB and SRH on March 28. With the arrest of eight more, the total number of arrests have increased to 13, including nine juveniles. The police recovered 75 mobile phones in total | P5

Tata Steel gets ₹1,755 crore demand notice over mining

New Delhi: Tata Steel Limited has received a demand notice of about ₹1,755 crore from the District Mining Office (DMO), Ramgarh, Jharkhand, over alleged excess extraction of coal from its West Bokaro colliery. The notice, dated March 30 and received by the company on April 3, alleges that Tata Steel mined around 1.62 crore metric tonnes of coal beyond permissible limits during 2000-01 to 2006-07 | P13

ANF joins search ops for missing trekker

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Madikeri

WITH the mystery behind the disappearance of a woman while trekking at Tadiandamol in Kodagu remaining unsolved, the authorities have roped in the Anti-Naxal Force (ANF) to join the combing operation. The search team is combing the entire Tadiandamol trail, said the district superintendent of police.

Sharanya GS (36), a software professional based in Kochi, went missing in the Tadiandamol hillock on April 2. Sources said the woman, who was staying at a homestay in Yavakapadi – the foothill settlement near the peak – telephoned the homestay owner around noon on April 2. She reportedly told him she might be delayed as she had missed her route on the trail. After that call, her mobile phone went out of network coverage.

On Saturday, the search was expanded to include five teams comprising foresters, police personnel and local residents. The ANF has also been deployed to intensify the operation. Madikeri DCF Abishek said while one side of the Tadiandamol peak is inhabited – where trekkers typically begin the route – the opposite side is covered by dense woodland known as the Pattighat Reserve Forest.

Sharanya's brother Shyam has reached the Tadiandamol foothill. According to him, she had not visited her family in Nadapuram for the past two months and had not informed her relatives about her trip to Kodagu.

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AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge said the elections to five states cannot be outright termed as tough or easy for the Congress and other opposition parties as the atmosphere has changed this time. He attributed it to various issues, including unemployment, turning the tide in favour of opposition parties. "People are coming out in favour of opposition parties," he said

CM: MY GOVT DIDN'T VIOLATE BORROWING NORMS

Accuses BJP of making baseless allegations on state's financial status, says budget well within range

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah offers puja at the Durga Devi temple in Muchakhandi, Bagalkot, while campaigning for the bypolls | EXPRESS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bagalkot

REBUTTING the allegations of BJP that CM Siddaramaiah, who also holds the Finance portfolio, has borrowed indiscriminately to implement the five guarantee schemes, Siddaramaiah on Saturday claimed that the borrowings were well within the set parameters of the budget.

Addressing reporters before participating in the Congress campaign here, he said as per the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2002, the state government could borrow up to 3% of the total GDP.

"Our budget is certainly well within that range and the Congress government has never violated that norms. But the BJP, which perhaps has not read the budget or has no idea of the norms, is making baseless allegations on the financial status of Karnataka," he said.

Siddaramaiah reminded the state BJP leaders that the borrowing limit is fixed by the Centre and not by the state government.

Claiming that Karnataka's GDP is better than that of the country under the BJP-led NDA rule, Siddaramaiah said India's GDP is 7.14% compared to the state's 8.1%. Let the BJP decide whose GDP is bigger, Karnataka's or India's. Stating that till 2014, the country's borrowings amounted to around Rs 54 lakh crore, he said Prime Minister Narendra Modi alone borrowed Rs 165 lakh crore till the current fiscal year after becoming PM in 2014.

To a question, he said that it was the Manmohan Singh government that launched the Food Security Act to ensure affordable ration to poor people. The BJP's claim that the Modi government is giving free ration to Karnataka is wrong as the Act was passed by the UPA government.

"When I became CM for the first time, my government launched a scheme to offer 7kg rice at Re 1/kg under PDS. But when the BJP came to power, it reduced the quantity to 5kg. You should ask the BJP why it reduced the quantity of rice," he said.

Siddaramaiah said instead of misleading the people over the development of the state under the Congress rule, the BJP leaders should tell what were their government's achievements. They should tell people how many poll promises they have fulfilled. "We have fulfilled all five guarantees promised to them. This will help our candidate secure an easy victory in this by-election," he said.

BJP leader R Ashoka campaigns for party candidate Veeranna Charantimath in Bagalkot on Saturday | EXPRESS

AHINDA champion Siddu slashed SC funds: Ashoka

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bagalkot

TAKING a dig at Chief Minister Siddaramaiah for being lauded as a champion of minority and backward communities of Karnataka, Leader of the Opposition R Ashoka said Siddaramaiah slashed funding for development of backward classes while BJP leader and former CM Basavaraj Bommai gave more funds for this.

Addressing media persons before hitting the campaign trail for BJP candidate Veeranna Charantimath, he claimed that Bommai as CM had granted Rs 1,699 crore to various boards and corporations of backward classes, but Siddaramaiah granted only Rs 643 crore .

" The CM, who is described as a champion of backward communities, has cut down the funds, while Bommai has given more funds. Now who should be called the champion of backward communities?" Ashoka said.

He also alleged that Siddaramaiah diverted Rs 54,000 crore, meant for the development of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes, to fund the five guarantees.

Ashoka challenged Siddaramaiah vouch openly that his government has not misused funds meant for welfare of SCs and STs. Claiming that the BJP is not against the five guarantees, he said the government is not implementing its own guarantees properly.

"The Congress government announced Rs 2,000 per month to the woman head of households each month under the Gruha Lakshmi scheme. But in fact, it has been crediting money only for six months in a year. Then where is the remaining money going?" he said.

Ashoka also alleged that the government has no funds for development. "MLAs such as R V Deshpande, Raju Kage and Basavaraj Rayareddy have openly admitted that they are not getting funds for the development of their constituencies because of the implementation of five guarantees," he said.

MP Basavaraj Bommai, former DCM and MP Govind Karjol and other party leaders were present.

Bypolls: Must win for Siddu, crucial for BYV leadership

AS electioneering in bypolls on April 9 reaches its crescendo, the Congress and BJP leaders are pulling out all the stops to win the seats. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah is leading a high-octane campaign in Davangere South and Bagalkot assembly segments. He is set to give the final push to his party's candidates before the campaigning ends on Tuesday.

While top leaders from the national and regional parties are battling it out in the high-stakes assembly polls in West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Assam and Kerala, the results of which could impact national politics, Siddaramaiah and his team are fighting their own battle in the two seats in the Central and North Karnataka regions. The CM is joined by DyCM and State Congress president DK Shivakumar, who splits his time between Karnataka and Assam. Shivakumar is part of the Congress team, led by Wayanad MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, overseeing the party's strategy for Assam polls.

The outcome in the bypolls in two seats in the state will not have any direct bearing on the Congress government, which enjoys a massive majority with 134 legislators in the 224-member state assembly. However, it's a must-win election for the CM, as both seats were won by the Congress in 2023, and the Siddaramaiah government's performance is the central theme of campaign by both parties, even as local factors play a major role.

Ensuring the party candidates' victory in both seats could bolster his image and help reassert his authority within the party, as the leadership change issue could resurface after the assembly polls in five states. The voices for change could become shriller if the party performs poorly even in one of the two constituencies. However, for the high command, the bypoll result will not be a deciding factor in the issue of leadership change. The CM has also made it clear that there is no link between the leadership issue and the bypolls results, and that they would abide by the high command's directions.

Generally, the ruling parties have an advantage in bypolls. The Congress is also banking on the sympathy factor, as the election in Davangere was necessitated by the death of a veteran leader, Shamanur Shivashankarappa. His 27-year-old grandson, Samarth Shamanur, is the party candidate. Samarth's father, SS Mallikarjun, is an MLA from the neighbouring Davangere North Assembly segment and a minister in the Siddaramaiah cabinet; his mother, Dr Prabha Mallikarjun, is an MP from the Davangere Lok Sabha seat. In Bagalkot, Umesh Meti is the Congress candidate in the elections after the death of his father and Congress MLA HY Meti.

As things stand, Congress seems to have an advantage in Davangere that has significant voters from the minority community, close to 60,000, followed by Lingayats and the Kuruba community. The party managed to take minority community leaders into confidence after they expressed displeasure over the denial of a ticket to their community leaders. Since 2008, when the constituency was carved out, Shamanur Shivashankarappa had won all four elections. His margin of victory in 2008 was 6,358, and in the last election it was 27,888 votes. Shivashankarappa's son and Samarth's father, Mallikarjun, also won the Davangere North seat with a comfortable margin of 24,472 votes in 2023.

On its part, the BJP appears to be relying on former chief minister BS Yediyurappa and his son and party state president BY Vijayendra to woo Lingayat voters, while hoping that the Muslim community voters may not show much enthusiasm to come out and vote for the Congress, after the initial fiasco over ticket allotment. The former CM, who campaigned for his party's candidate Srinivas Dasakariyappa in Davangere, is confident of the BJP's victory in both the seats.

In Davangere and Bagalkot, the BJP leaders' campaign is centred around Siddaramaiah's government's performance. Their litany of charges against the state government includes increased borrowing, inefficient implementation of the guarantee schemes, price rise and uncertainty over leadership issues. The CM, on his part, is responding to each of those allegations while also highlighting his government's achievements.

In Bagalkot, the BJP perceives victory to be within striking distance. It is banking on the dominant Lingayat community and urban electorate, while Congress is relying on the AHINDA factor and guarantee schemes.

In 2023, BJP leader and three-term MLA Veeranna Charantimath lost to Meti with a thin margin of 5,878 votes, and in 2013, he lost with a margin of 2,900 votes. The narrow margins of victory in this constituency indicate that it can go either way. The BJP is making all-out efforts, and many state leaders, including Union ministers, are campaigning aggressively. Even MLA Basangouda Patil Yatnal, though expelled from the BJP, has thrown his weight behind Charantimath.

BJP's performance will be crucial for Vijayendra to cement his leadership. Some see it as a good tactical opportunity to prove his mettle in the Lingayat-dominated seats. But a lot is at stake for the CM.

SAMARTH WALKS UNTRODDEN PATHS IN DAVANAGERE SOUTH

G SUBHASH CHANDRA
@ Davanagere

TAKING his first steps in electoral politics, Samarth Shamanur Mallikarjun (27) is walking barefoot. The Congress candidate in Davanagere South is the son of minister SS Mallikarjun and MP Dr Prabha Mallikarjun.

Samarth is no stranger to politics. He is coming from a family of politicians. He had campaigned for his late grandfather, Dr Shamanur Shivashankarappa, and father, SS Mallikarjun, during the 2023 Assembly polls and for his mother, Dr Prabha Mallikarjun, in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

And he is a staunch believer.

Despite the scorching summer, he was seen trudging the lanes of Old Davanagere, meeting people and requesting them to vote for him.

Samarth, however, does not attach much importance to his campaign style. "Why are you looking at my feet? Just look at my future goals of making Davanagere South one of the best constituencies in the state," he said. Prabha Mallikarjun says her son has been inspired by Veerabhadraswamy Kondotsva to go barefoot till the votes are counted.

"Kondotsava is usually held in March-April. The festival had coincided with the Assembly polls in 2023. Samarth had walked on coals of fire and from then onwards he made it a practice to walk barefoot during the elections. His grandfather and father had won comfortably," she said.

"Later during my elections to Parliament, too, he walked barefoot for more than two months till the results were announced. It was a spiritual experience for him," she explained.

"After the 2024 elections, we went to Gangotri and Yamunotri. Despite snow and cold he again walked barefoot. While boarding the plane at New Delhi it was 42 degree Celsius. He was undeterred and boarded the plane barefoot back to Davanagere," she said.

Prabha said that Samarth has grown up seeing his grandfather and father work tirelessly for the people. "He has closely worked with me and watched parliamentary proceedings. Age is not a criterion for the development of one's constituency. He will make Davanagere South one of the best constituencies in the country," she added.

Congress candidate for Davanagere South Samarth Shamanur walks barefoot while campaigning in the city | EXPRESS

Congress guarantees softening gas, petrol price hike blow, says Surjewala

AICC General Secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala makes a point by garlanding gas cylinders at a campaign programme in Davanagere on Saturday | EXPRESS

G SUBASH CHANDRA @Davanagere

COMING down heavily on the BJP, AICC General Secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala on Saturday urged voters to reject the saffron party which is against the Congress government's guarantee schemes.

Interacting with guarantee scheme beneficiaries at the APMC market, he said, "Don't vote for the BJP that criticises the five guarantee schemes implemented by the Congress government in Karnataka. BJP is trying to set a fake narrative, which people of the state are not ready to accept. Guarantee schemes have increased the purchasing power of people. It has helped people who are suffering due to price hike. The Congress government has spent Rs 1.36 lakh crore on the guarantee schemes."

He said there are two models in the state -- the first is the guarantee model of the Congress government and the second is clipping the pockets of people, which is being done successfully by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi government.

"In 2014, before the BJP came to power, the price of an LPG cylinder was around Rs 400. Now it has crossed Rs 950. Petrol, which was Rs 70 per litre, has now crossed Rs 102. Diesel has jumped from Rs 56 to Rs 96. Toll rates have been increased from April 1. Karnataka collects Rs 5,000 crore in toll tax annually. Rs 2.80 lakh crore in toll tax is being collected across the country, yet the roads are in a pathetic state," he said.

He added that the prices of LPG cylinders, petrol and diesel will increase more after the elections in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Assam and West Bengal as the BJP has kept the price in abeyance to win the polls.

"Guarantee is the way to save yourself from inflation. The Congress government is spending Rs 50,000 crore every year on the five guarantees. But the BJP is trying its best to stop this. Voters can support the Congress by electing its candidate Samarth Shamanuru," Surjewala said.

'Expel Simha for remarks against CM'

AICC General Secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala accused the BJP of deliberately sending former MP Prathap Simha to campaign for the bypolls just to insult Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. Simha's derogatory remarks about the CM in Bagalkot has exposed the BJP's despicable politics once again, the Congress leader stated. "Let them expel Prathap Simha from BJP, if they do not subscribe to his remarks, and if they are not a party to the conspiracy," he said and demanded that an FIR be lodged against Simha and strict action be taken. **ENS**

Minority independents continue to give Samarth jitters

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @Bengaluru

INDEPENDENT candidates, especially from the Muslim community, who are in the fray for the April 9 bypoll to the Davanagere South Assembly constituency have continued to give jitters to Congress' official candidate Samarth Shamanur, son of Horticulture Minister SS Mallikarjun and grandson of late Shamanur Shivashankarappa.

As Muslims are peeved with Congress for not giving the ticket to their community member, and a section of SC left (Madiga) community leaders disenchanted with the Congress government over not implementing the internal reservation for for SCs, party leaders on the ground admit that the going could be tough for Samarth. "The margin of victory could get reduced," a leader told *TNSE*.

Of the 14 Muslim independents in fray, Khader Adil Bhasha has kept up the tempo and taken the youth into confidence. Though Congress managed to convince Sadiq Pailwan, a rebel party leader who was in fray, to pull out, its strategy has been unsuccessful with Adil Bhasha. Karwar MLA Satish Sail who went as an emissary on Friday could not convince Bhasha, sources said. In the absence of Housing Minister Zameer Ahmed Khan, who is busy with Kerala polls, former union minister CM Ibrahim is hogging the community limelight, while campaigning for Bhasha.

Also, Raitha Sangha leader Kodihalli Chandrashekar and Dalit leader Marasandra Muniyappa, who are SC left, have also joined the campaign. In the meantime, JDU state president Mahima J Patel visited Bhasha and extended his moral support, while other Muslim leaders -- Afsar Kodlipete from SDPI and T Jabeena Aapa -- are 'determined' to defeat Samarth.

Adding to the mix, a section of Muslim youth wants to avenge Congress and this has come as a blessing for BJP candidate Srinivas T Dasakariyappa, an ST Nayaka leader. "Even if Zameer campaigns here, we will not listen to him as he is a Congressman. We are not ready to compromise with our self-respect," said Mubarak, an autorickshaw driver, reflecting the mood of Muslim youth in the constituency.

But Muslim clerics from Kalaburagi, on the request of Congress, have sent out a message asking the community not to get divided as it could help BJP. "As the polling day nears, things are turning in Congress' favour as Muslims realise that only our party can safeguard their interests from the onslaught of communal forces," said HK Basavaraj, a party leader.

However, Congress has ensured that its rank and file hit the ground and set up a camp office to gather information day-today to work out a strategy. Deputy Chief Minister and KPCC president DK Shivakumar has instructed them to check the voter list and ensure there is no confusion over addition and deletion of names. A posse of leaders, including ministers Dr G Parameshwara and Dr HC Mahadevappa, chairpersons of boards and corporations, have hit the campaign trail here.

Centre must change foreign policy, import gas from other countries, says Kharge

Bengaluru: AICC President and LoP in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge said the Centre should take the LPG crisis owing to the West Asia war seriously and change its foreign policy so as to import gas from other countries wherever it is available. "It is not right to claim that gas is available when it is not. Where there is a mistake, it should be corrected. This is a crisis and if it is not handled properly, the entire country will suffer as it will affect the country's economy," he told reporters here on Saturday. He pointed out that already small hotels and many factories have shut down, affecting the common man. Kharge said India should talk to other countries and work to procure gas in more ways as soon as possible. "The shortage of LPG will become a problem in the future as the war would continue, and we should think about the future course of action. That is why I had sought time to ask a question in Parliament to discuss it under Rule 176. The entire House would give its opinion and discuss which is good in the country's interest. But Rule 176 was not given any respect," he said. Kharge said he has spoken on the issue twice in the Rajya Sabha with opposition MPs backing him, but the government was not ready to listen. **ENS**

19-yr-old SUV driver mows down biker

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

A 19-year-old driver of an SUV, allegedly under the influence of alcohol, mowed down another 19-year-old bike rider in Jeevan Bima Nagar traffic police limits on Friday night .

The bike rider, Prathik (19), died on the spot. A police officer said, "The driver of the SUV, Arpith, was driving under the influence of alcohol." The victim, who was coming from Maruthinagar, was riding on the 10th Main Road in Malleshpalya when the SUV hit his bike.

EXPRESS READ

HSRP mandatory for pre-2019 vehicles

BENGALURU: The transport department has clarified that installation of High Security Registration Plates remains mandatory for vehicles registered before April 1, 2019, following recent reports suggesting otherwise. The department said the Centre had issued a notification on Dec 4, 2018, in this regard. **ENS**

Bank employee killed on KIA main road

BENGALURU: Prashanth, a private bank employee and a resident of Thigalarapalya in Hoodi was hit by a speeding car, when he entered the Kempegowda International Airport main road from the service road near the toll at around 11.45 pm on Friday. A case is registered at the Chikkajala traffic police. **ENS**

Inter-state motorbike theft gang held

BELAGAVI: Sankeshwar police, Belagavi, arrested Laxman Virupakshi Kanabaragi (31) and Fakirappa Siddappa Karigar (25) in an inter-state motorcycle theft case and recovered 27 stolen bikes worth approximately Rs 18.3 lakh. The recovered vehicles were from Karnataka and Maharashtra. A motorcycle used in committing the crimes was also seized. **ENS**

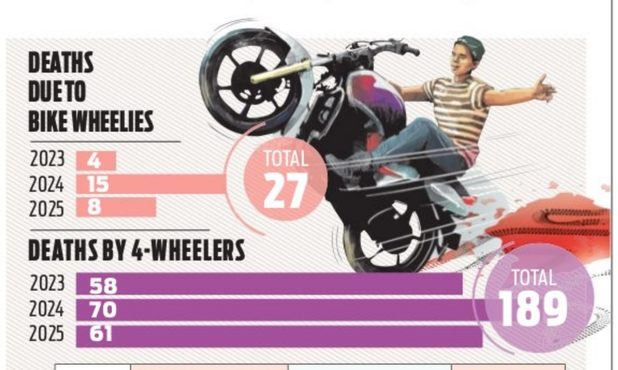
Man from Rajasthan murdered in Varthur

BENGALURU: M Dala Ram (26) from Diwandi, Pali district of Rajasthan was stabbed to death on the footpath of Balagere Main Road near Skanda Elina Apartment by 12.10 am on Saturday. The police suspect that the accused must have tried to rob him. When Dala resisted, they would have stabbed him to death. Dala might have tried to escape, but as he was stabbed, he collapsed and died, the police said. He had come to the city a week ago, and was visiting his relatives in HSR Layout. **ENS**

1,805 cases registered against minors, parents

Danger on road: Data from for last 3 years, B'luru tops list

BK LAKSHMIKANTHA
@ Mysuru



BIKE-WHEELING

Year	Minors booked	Parents booked	Fines
2023	309	99	₹27.71L
2024	699	173	₹52.25L
2025	797	242	₹97.70L
Total	1,805	514	₹1.77cr

DRIVING 4-WHEELERS

Year	Minors booked	Parents booked	Fines
2023	369	327	₹38.41L
2024	677	585	₹43.38L
2025	943	920	₹57.83L
Total	1,989	1,832	₹1.39cr

MINORS performing reckless bike stunts on public roads are not only putting their own lives at risk, but are also posing a serious threat to motorists and pedestrians. Over the last three years, the police across the state have registered 1,805 cases against minors and their parents, collecting fines of Rs 1.77 crore. Tragically, 27 people have lost their lives in accidents involving minors.

As per data available with TNIE, Bengaluru recorded the highest number of cases against minors and their parents for illegal riding, followed by Mysuru, Tumakuru, Kodagu and other districts.

In Bengaluru, the police registered 240 cases in 2023, collecting Rs 18.31 lakh in fines. In 2024, the number rose to 378 cases with Rs 16.99 lakh in fines, and further increased to 632 cases in 2025, with Rs 15.65 lakh collected.

In Mysuru, 21 cases were registered against minors and 15 against parents in 2023, with fines totalling Rs 13.55 lakh. In 2024, 27 cases against minors and 33 against parents were recorded, with Rs 1.21 lakh collected. In 2025, 19 cases against minors and 34 against parents were booked, with fines of Rs 1.37 lakh.

In Tumakuru district, 21 cases (including 8 against parents) were registered in 2023, with Rs 78,000 in fines. This rose to 35 cases (13 against parents) and Rs 95,500 in fines in 2024, while 2025 saw 21 cases (6 against parents) and Rs 1.50 lakh in fines. Bengaluru also leads in cases related specifically to bike stunts such as wheelies. The police registered 242 cases (including 70 against parents) in 2023, collecting Rs 23.84 lakh in fines. In 2024, 532 cases (120 against parents) were booked, with Rs 45.82 lakh collected, while 2025 saw 646 cases (159 against parents) and Rs 91.17 lakh in fines.

In Mysuru city, 26 such cases (14 against parents) were registered in 2023, with Rs 1.19 lakh collected. This increased to 31 cases (20 against parents) and Rs 1.95 lakh in 2024, and 48 cases (42 against parents) in 2025, with Rs 1.19 lakh in fines.

A senior police officer said that to prevent minors from driving, cases are being registered under the Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita and the Indian Motor Vehicles Act with offenders being booked and vehicles seized. "Recommendations are sent to the Regional Transport Office to cancel the registration of vehicles involved. Special drives are conducted and awareness programmes held during Road Safety Month every January," the officer said.

To tackle wheelies by minors, the police have identified hotspots where such stunts are done and intensified patrols. "In all, 37 locations in Bengaluru have been identified where wheeling is common. Cobra teams have been deployed for surveillance and enforcement. Preventive Action Reports are being filed under Section 107 of the CrPC before special executive magistrates. Awareness is being spread through social media platforms like Facebook and X, and through school visits under the SARS scheme to educate students," he said.

5 juveniles, 3 others held for stealing phones at IPL match

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
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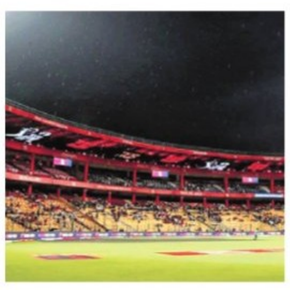

EIGHT more persons, including five juveniles, were arrested by the Cubbon Park police and Central Crime Branch (CCB) sleuths in connection with mobile phone thefts in and around the Chinnaswamy Stadium during the IPL match between RCB and SRH on March 28.

The mobile phones belonged to the spectators who had come to watch the match. With this, the total number of arrests in similar cases has gone up to 13. The police had earlier arrested five accused, including four juveniles. Of the 13, nine are juveniles.

The police have recovered 75 mobile phones in total, estimated to be worth over Rs 65 lakh. Of the 75 phones, 70 were stolen and the five were used by the accused for the offence.

The arrested are identified as Sohan Kumar, 19, Sanjeeth Kumar, 24, Eshal Kumar, 23. The mastermind, Shubham Kumar, 26, was arrested earlier.

"The investigation is ongoing. All the juveniles were produced before the Juvenile Justice Board and sent to a Government Observation Home. The other four accused are remanded to police custody. The accused are from Jharkhand and other North Indian states. After travelling to Bengaluru, they were staying in small hotel rooms. More than 50 complaints have been registered so far. Of the recovered phones, a few might have been stolen during matches at other venues across the country," said an officer.

The accused had stolen the mobile phones from spectators in and outside the stadium and near Cubbon Park and MG Road Metro stations. Some of the accused had gained entry inside the stadium with complimentary passes.

Staffer sacked, ex-hubby beats up salon owner

BENGALURU: Mohan Kumar, the owner of a unisex salon in Avalahalli, and his wife Shreeja were allegedly beaten by a group of miscreants, including the ex-husband of a sacked woman employee recently. Kumar had reportedly proposed to the woman employee by giving her a biscuit. When she turned down his proposal, she was allegedly sacked.

The woman then informed her ex-husband, who arrived near the salon along with his aides and beat up Kumar and his wife Shreeja, who tried to intervene. The incident that occurred on March 28 was captured in the salon's CCTV. Kumar was hospitalised after the incident. The Avalahalli police are searching for the accused.

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B.Sc.* (Hons.) Environmental Health Sciences
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M.Sc. Medical Bioinformatics
13. AUDIOLOGY & SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
M.Sc. Audiology / Speech Language Pathology+
14. OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
M.OT Paediatrics & Neonatology / Neurosciences / Mental Health / Hand / Musculoskeletal Sciences / Oncological Sciences
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B.Sc.* (Hons.) Data Science

* In line with NEP–2020 exit at the end of 3 years.
** Admission only through NEET based MCC centralized counseling.
# As per National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Profession (NCAHP) approved programs.
+ Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) approved programs.
$ Subject to approval of Rehabilitation Council of India.

Applications are invited for the Academic Year 2026-27.
For further details.
SCAN ME
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Kalyana Karnataka Road Transport Corporation: Ballari Division: Ballari.

No. KKRT : BLR : TR : COMM : 2938 : 2025-26

Date: 31-03-2026.

E-Tender Notification No: 02/2026

Applications are invited through e-procurement for selecting licensee to commercial stalls/open place and hoarding advertisment infornt of Siruguppa Depot coming under KKRTC Ballari Division, Ballari. Interested bidder can download notification through "https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in" and instructed to read and understanding the terms and conditions before submit online application. The bidders must submit their documents and EMD amount through E-Portal Only. (DD/Cash will not accepted for EMD and other fees). Application can submitted till 20-04-2026 at 17:00 hrs. E-Tender will be opened on 22-04-2026 after 12:00 hrs. The Corporation reserves the right to accept, reject or without any notice select the bidders or postpone or modify or cancel the e-tender/ manual tender notifications. For more details visit online protal or Divisional Traffic Officer, Ballari (Mobile No. 77609 92152).

Sd/- Divisional Controller,
KKRTC : Ballari Division : Ballari.

DIPR/Ballari/2026-27/KSMCA/RO No/14

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public is hereby informed that my Client H.N. MAHESH, S/o. H.B. SRIKANTAIAH residing at No. 101, Suki Apartment, 5th Main, 3rd Block, T.R. Nagar, Bangalore-560070 intend to purchase the House property No. 2, E-katha No.7857590117 situated at Uttarahalli Village, Bangalore South Taluk, measuring East to West - 30' feet and North to South - 50' feet, in total 1500 sft, along with 2400 sft, of buildup area from its owners KRISHNA PRASAD. T.S., Smt. BHARATI PRASAD. T.K. vide registered Document No. BSG-1-03227/2020-21 on Dated 19-10-2020 which is described in detailed in the schedule. If any general public having any claim, share rights or interest with respect to below mentioned schedule property shall submit their objections alongwith related documents with the undersigned within a period of 07 days from the date of this publication. Failure to do so, will result in my client proceedings with the sale transactions with the above mentioned owners. Assuming that there are no 3rd party claims, objections or disputes regarding the schedule property no claims, objection or disputes will be entertained thereafter.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the House property bearing No. 2, old khatha No.44, New Katha No. 14/1, E-khatha No. 7857590117 situated at Uttarahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, now within the BBMP limits, measuring East to West 30' feet, and North to South 50' feet, in total 1500 sft, along with 2400/- sft, of RCC building at Ground, First and Second Floor with all civic amenities and bounded of : East by : Site No. 1, West by : Site No. 3, North by : KSRTC Layout and South by : 30 feet Road.

C. KRISHNE GOWDA, Advocate
No. 1/1, Shreyas, Grape Garden, 1st Cross, 3rd Block, T.R. Nagar, Bangalore - 560 028.
M. 9880799389

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE DISTRICT COMMISSIONER AT BENGALURU SOUTH

PTCL No. 27 of 2013

Between : Sampangi S/o Puttaiah Haragadde Village., Jigani Hobli, Anekal Thaluk, Bengaluru
Petitioner

And : **1. The Assistant Commissioner** Bangalore South Sub-division, Bangalore
2. SMT. Radha Prakash W/o G R Prakasham R/at 70/1 A Harshita Nilaya, Ist Main 2nd Cross, Hulimavu, village, Bangalore 560 076
3. B Kishore Kumar S/o B Jyothi Prasad, R/at No. 42 1st Floor 1st Main, 2nd Cross MICO Layout, BTM 2nd Stage Bangalore 560 076
Respondent

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Appellant has initiated the above suit being aggrieved by the order dated 20.12.2012, passed in K.SC.ST (A) No. 05/2011-12, by the 1 st respondent in rejecting the claim of the appellant for resumption and restoration of the land bearing Old Survey No. 43, New No. 303, measuring 1-00 acre, situated at Haragadde Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, under Section 4 and 5 of the Karnataka Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prohibition of Transfer of Certain Lands) Act, 1978.

The above suit is posted for hearing **on 30/4/2026** before this Hon'ble court. You are hereby called upon to appear before this Hon'ble court on the above mentioned date either in person or through a duly authorized legal representative, to contest the suit.

Notice of Default: Failure to appear will result in the case being heard ex-parte in your absence.

Bengaluru
27.03.2026

By Order of the Court
Sd/- District Commissioner
Bangalore Urban District Bangalore

IN THE COURT OF HON'BLE XV ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE (CCH 3) AT BANGALORE

O.S. 7530 / 2024

BETWEEN:
1. Pravin Kumar Chaudhary and others. ...Plaintiff No.1
2. Mrs. Manisha Chaudhar ...Plaintiff No.2
Both are residing at-R/o. Flat No. 093, Tower 42, DLF Garden City, Semmancheri, Talambur, Chennai-600130
AND
1. M/S. Ziyu Homes Pvt. Ltd. and others ...Defendant

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 (1-A) OF THE CIVIL PROCEDURE CODE THROUGH PAPER PUBLICATION

1. M/S. Ziyu Homes Pvt. Ltd.
Having Register Office at: No.485, SN Towers, 2nd floor, HBR 3rd Block, Opp. BDA Complex, Police Chowki Bengaluru-560043
Represented by it Directors:
Ms. Noor Mohammed Mueeda Samdani Banu, Mr. Ahemad Ali Baig. ...Defendant No.1
2. Mr. Ahemad Ali Baig. ...Defendant No.2
3. Ms. Noor Mohammed Mueeda Samdani Banu. ...Defendant No.3
Both are residing at-No. 485, SN Towers, 2nd Floor, HBR 3rd Block, Opp. BDA Complex, Police Chowki Bengaluru-560 043
Also at: Flat No. A-3043a Floor, A Block, "Abodh Valmark" Govindapura Nagawara, Bengaluru- 560 043.

WHEREAS, the Plaintiff has instituted the present suit under Section 26 read with Order VII Rule 1 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, seeking, inter alia, a decree directing the Defendants to jointly and severally quit and deliver vacant possession of the suit property; to jointly and severally pay a sum of 3,49,825/- (Rupees Three Lakhs Forty-Nine Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty-Five only) towards arrears of rent; and to jointly and severally pay damages or mesne profits at the rate of 34,125/- (Rupees Thirty- Four Thousand One Hundred and Twenty-Five only) per month, by way of passing judgment and decree in favour of the Plaintiff.

You are hereby directed to appear before this Hon'ble Court, CCH-3, in person or through a pleader duly instructed, on **08.04.2026 at 11:00 AM O'clock** in the forenoon to answer the claim and you are directed to produce on that day all the documents upon which you intended to reply in support of your defence.

Take notice that, in default of your appearance on the day before mentioned, the suit will be heard and determine in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of the court this 24th day of January 2026.

By Order of the Court
***Sd/-* Senior Sheristedar,**
City Civil Court, Bengaluru

Advocate for Petitioner:
KAPIL DIXIT LLP
No.210-212, B Wing, Mittal Tower, MG Road, Bengaluru-560001
Email- admin@kapildixit.com
Place: Bengaluru

Forest Department

Office of the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Social Forestry & Projects), Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560003

No.KFD-SFAP/A1(BGT)/6/2025-Projects-KFD/E-1695953 **Date: 04.04.2026**

(RE-TENDER) ADVERTISEMENT

Applications are invited for appointment of State Level Adviser / Consultant on contract basis for the year 2026-27 for assisting the Rastriya Krishi Vikasa Yojane - Agroforestry Component of Karnataka State project under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Department of Agriculture, Co-operation & Farmers Welfare, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.

Sl No	Post	Qualifications, Experience and Criteria	Indicative remuneration
1	State Level Adviser/ Consultant	M.Sc., (Forestry) with minimum 5 years' of experience in Agroforestry activities OR Retired Forest Officer who has served in Karnataka Forest Department with good experience of Agroforestry activities in the state with minimum qualification of M.Sc., and 30 years of service. Criteria : ➢ Consultant / Adviser will be appointed initially for one year, based on their performance, the period may be extended on an annual basis. ➢ Should be well–versed with administrative / field knowledge ➢ Bengaluru based	Rs.65,000/- per month with Bangalore Hq.,

A brief resume of eligible candidates along with a recent photograph should reach the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Social Forestry & Projects) through e-prorument (KPP portal) or e-mail apccfsf@gmail.com / projectapccf@gmail.com within 13th of April 2026 from the date of publication.

DIPR/CP/62/AKAR/2026-27

Sd/- Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Social Forestry & Projects), Bengaluru

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government Of India Undertaking)
Head Office: Bangalore

ARM-1 Branch,
2nd Floor, No.86, Spencer Tower,
M.G. Road Bengaluru-560001
Ph:080-25310066, E-mail: cb2366@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable / movable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of the Canara Bank,** will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **23.04.2026 (10.00 AM to 11.00 AM),** for recovery of **Rs.28,26,55,996.82 (Rupees Twenty Eight Crore Twenty Six Lakh Fifty Five Thousands Nine Hundred Ninety Six And Paisa Eighty Two Only)** as on date with further interest and cost thereon due to the **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of Canara Bank from (1) M/s Biopoint India Private Limited, (2) Mr Aniketan U P Managing Director, (3) Smt. Amulya N S Director, (4) Smt R Manjula, All are residing at:** # 502, 12th Main, M S R Enclave,Near Nagasandra Metro Station, Nagasandra, Bangalore 560073. **(5) Smt. Ananya U P,** No. S3, 2nd Floor, Deccan Terrace 8th Main, Malleswaram, Bengaluru 5600036. **(6) Mr. B R Siddesh,** No. 3163, 10th Main Road, 3rd Cross, MCC Block, Southern Division, Devanagere 577004. **(7) Mr. K N Umesh,** # 502, 12th Main, M S R Enclave, Near Nagasandra Metro Station, Nagasandra, Bangalore 560073.

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of **E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through **RTGS/NEFT** in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **22.04.2026 - 5.00 pm.**

(₹.In Lakhs)

Lot	Description of the immovable assets:	Reserve Price	EMD	Incremental Value	Inspection date & time
1	All that piece and parcel of converted land bearing Sy No. 26/8 measuring 2 acres 35 guntas located at Metikurke village, Hiriyur Taluk, Chitradurga District, Standing in the name of M/s Bio Point India Pvt. Ltd., and bounded by: East : LA NO. 31, West: Land of B Thippamma, North: LA No 276 land, South: LA – HI 2 land.	Rs. 3080.00	Rs. 308.00	Rs. 10.00	10.03.2026 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM with Prior Appointment with Authorised Officer
2	Hypothecated Plant & Machinery, Furniture & Fixtures and DG set				

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No.080-25310066 and 9483544116, e-mail: cb2366@canarabank.com during office hours on any working day.

Date : 04.04.2026
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government Of India Undertaking)
Head Office: Bangalore

ARM-1 Branch,
2nd Floor, No.86, Spencer Tower,
M.G. Road Bengaluru-560001
Ph:080-25310066, E-mail: cb2366@canarabank.com

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable / movable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of the Canara Bank,** will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 24.04.2026 from 10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.** [with unlimited extension of 5 minutes duration each till the conclusion of sale], for recovery of **Rs91,96,604.66/- (Rupees Ninety One Lakhs Ninety Six Thousand Six Hundred Four and paise Sixty Six Only)** plus further interest thereon from **03.04.2026** and other expenses due to the **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of Canara Bank from (1) Miss Susmitha Kashimalla** D/o Veera Brahma, No.36, 2nd Cross, Near Ambedkar Statue, New Thippasandra, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru-560075, **(2) Mrs Lidya Karen K,** D/o Veera Brahma, No.36, 2nd Cross, Ananda Puram, Kalyana Mandapajeevan Bhima Nagar, New Thippasandra, Bangalore-560075.

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of **E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through **RTGS/NEFT** in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **23.04.2026 - 5.00 pm.**

(₹.In Lakhs)

Lot	Description of the immovable assets	Reserve Price	EMD	Incremental Value	Inspection date & time
1	**Schedule of Property :** All that Piece and parcel of immovable residential flat bearing No.FF-1,in the 1st Floor of the residential Apartment known as "ARHANT MSR NEEPA" having super built up area 1400 Sq Ft along with 240 Sq Ft of undivided share of land with parking situated at Ramaiah Garden, Near Big Market, J P Nagar 7th Phase, Bangalore-560078 New PID No.187/W0157-5,6 , Puttenahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South and bounded on the: East by: Property No. Site No.-41 & 42, West by: Road, North by :-Property No.33, South by : Site No.36. **Coordinates of the described property : 12.897098 N, 77.585003 E**	₹. 50.00	₹. 5.00	₹. 1.00	18.04.2026 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM. with Prior Appointment with Authorised Officer

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, (Ph. No. 9439058121 and 9483544116) during office hours on any working day.

Date : 04.04.2026
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

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THE NEW SUNDAY EXPRESS | KARNATAKA

06 BENGALURU SUNDAY 05.04.2026

K'taka accounts for over 31% of telecom plaints nationwide

Highest from state, followed by UP, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Bihar

VINCENT D'SOUZA @ Mangaluru

KARNATAKA has recorded the highest number of telecom service complaints in India, accounting for approximately 31% of all grievances registered nationwide in 2025-26, according to data presented in the Rajya Sabha by the Ministry of Communications.

Out of a total of 30,417 complaints recorded on the Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS), Karnataka alone reported 9,444 cases, far exceeding other large states.

The data shows that Karnataka's complaints are heavily concentrated on network coverage issues (7,810 cases), followed by data quality (2,328) and call drops (1,634). This makes it not only the top contributor overall but also the leading state across all major categories of telecom service deficiencies.

A distant second is Uttar Pradesh with 4,229 complaints, followed by West Bengal (2,256), Maharashtra (1,744) and Bihar (1,484). Even when compared with other major telecom circles, Karnataka's complaint volume is more than double that of the next highest state, highlighting a significant regional imbalance in service quality concerns.

Nationwide, network-related grievances dominate the complaint landscape. Of the total complaints, 26,800 relate to network coverage, indicating that connectivity gaps remain the most pressing issue for consumers. Data quality accounts for 8,748 complaints, while call drops, once the most visible telecom issue, stand at 3,617, suggesting some improvement in voice service stability relative to data services.

The government stated that the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India continues to monitor service providers against revised Quality of Service (QoS) benchmarks introduced in August 2024 and effective from October 2024. Despite Karnataka's high complaint volume, the ministry noted that as of February 2026, telecom service providers are meeting prescribed QoS benchmarks across licensed service areas, indicating a possible gap between measured compliance and user experience.

To enforce standards, financial penalties have been imposed on telecom operators for non-compliance. Between April and August 2025, total fines ranged from Rs 18 lakh to Rs 35 lakh per month across providers such as Bharti Airtel, BSNL, MTNL, Reliance Jio and Vodafone Idea.

The government attributed persistent service inconsistencies, particularly in rural and remote areas, to infrastructure and coverage challenges. It outlined several corrective measures, including expanding mobile coverage in uncovered villages under Digital Bharat Nidhi schemes, spectrum allocation through auctions, easing right-of-way permissions, and promoting spectrum sharing and trading.

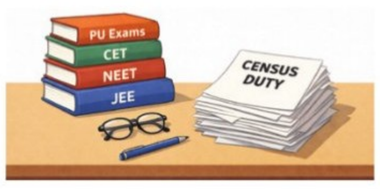
PU lecturers petition govt to skip census work

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

EVEN as the census duty is scheduled from April 16 for school teachers and college lecturers, the Karnataka State PU College Lecturers Association has submitted a petition to the Principal Secretary, School Education Department and Chief Commissioner of GBA, seeking exemption from census due to academic workload including exam duty, evaluation, online coaching for CET, NEET and JEE for second PU students.

Ningegowda AH, the President of Karnataka State Pre-University College Lecturers' Association said, "The 2nd PUC result will be declared on April 7. The recount of marks and revaluation will also follow. All science stream faculties are assigned to CET/NEET/JEE online classes till April 20. The National Institute of Open Schooling Theory Examination will be held from April 10 to May 6. The Karnataka Examination Authority will conduct the 'CET-2026' entrance exam on April 23 and 24." Ningegowda added, "The 2nd PUC examination-2 will be held from April 25 to May 8 as per the already fixed schedule. The National Testing Agency will conduct NEET-2026 on May 3. Therefore, only PU college lecturers will be deputed for all these tasks."

The association said, the School Education Department (Pre-Univeristy) was conducting online classes every day for 25,000 selected students of the 2nd PUC Science stream of government pre-university colleges starting from the academic year 2025-26, to train them for CET/NEET/JEE entrance exams. However, due to the preparatory examination, practical examination and annual examination, online live classes were temporarily suspended. Now, the same classes are being held from April 1 to 20 for almost 20 days. Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and Biology classes for 4 hours daily will be conducted and all lecturers are required to participate compulsorily. Hence, the lecturers are demanding exemption from census work.



CENSUS DUTY ABSENCE WILL INVITE FIR: CIVIC CHIEFS

BENGALURU: Bengaluru South City Corporation Commissioner KN Ramesh and Bengaluru Central City Corporation Commissioner Rajendra Cholan P have warned of strict action against staff who remain absent from National Census 2027 duties. The House Listing and Housing Census in the Bengaluru South Municipal Corporation area will be conducted from April 16 to May 15. A total of 4,678 enumerators and 798 supervisors have been appointed. Training will be held at 16 centres from April 6 to 8, and attendance is mandatory. The commissioners stated that in case of absence, a criminal case will be registered under Section 11 of the Census Act, 1948, and an FIR will be filed under Section 223 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita for non-compliance with official orders. Suspension and disciplinary action will be taken for gross misconduct and disobedience, and unauthorised absence will be treated as a non-working day.

Geologists assessing threat of glacier melting

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

THE Indus basin glaciers carry 2,103 cubic km of water; Ganga basin glaciers, 596 cubic km and Brahmaputra basin glaciers, 897 cubic km.

Glacier expert Dr Anil V Kulkarni, distinguished visiting scientist at DCCC under the Centre for Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, told *The New Sunday Express* that the extent of damage caused by a melting-and-breaking hanging glacier cannot be precisely tabulated as it depends on the size of the glacier, the season in which the incident occurs and the number of people in the region at that point of time.

Localised effects also impact hanging glaciers apart from the degradation of permafrost (ground including soil, rock, or sediment that remains frozen at or below zero degree Celsius).

"This is one area we need to immediately understand to ensure the safety of the vulnerable communities. But lack of adequate infrastructure and manpower is making it difficult," he said. Glaciologists, however, have said models are being developed now to understand which portions of ice form and melt first, to primarily assess the nature of threat due to melting hanging glaciers.

A grim reminder of the catastrophic impact of hanging glaciers is the November 7 disaster in Rishi Ganga Valley in which 72 people died and at least 200 were reported missing. Dr Kulkarni said the data from the study is being collated using satellite images and physical verification of hanging glaciers at accessible locations, before being listed out.

To address the threat from hanging glaciers, officials from the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Earth Science and scientists from IISc recently held a meeting in which a series of suggestions was listed. During the meeting, an immediate alert was sounded over a hanging glacier in the Badrinath region.

Sources privy to the minutes of the meeting told TNSE that stress was laid on an immediate need to think beyond traditional methods and convert hazard, vulnerability and risk assessment into high mountain regulation zones to regulate developmental activities. They also pointed to the increasing cryogenic changes taking place in the Himalayan region, and stressed the need for preparing a cryosphere change impact assessment report.

New AI tool tracks ships, aircraft even with GPS off

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

AMID rising concerns over smuggling, illegal fishing and "dark shipping" in the wake of the West Asia crisis, a Bengaluru-based start-up has developed a tool to track ships and aircraft even when GPS systems are switched off.

Xovian Aerospace uses radio frequency signals and satellites to detect and track vehicles that go off conventional radar.

Co-founder Ankit Bhateja said the artificial intelligence-powered radio frequency capture tool can be used for ships, defence sites, aircraft and the industrial sector. "Pilot projects are underway with commercial shipping companies, and discussions with the Indian defence sector are in progress," he said.

The 14-member team, which includes former ISRO scientists, worked on the technology for two years before announcing its launch.

Bhateja explained that conventional tracking relies on satellite imagery and GPS. However, when GPS is switched off, the system analyses radio frequency signals emitted by onboard instruments and the electromagnetic trails they leave behind.

Ships, for instance, typically emit signals at 160 MHz on the Automatic Identification System (AIS) band. Even if AIS is switched off, other onboard devices continue emitting radio frequency signals that can be detected. If all communication systems are turned off, the tool analyses the vessel's last known location and surrounding ship signals to estimate movement.

Currently, the company relies on data from multiple sources, resulting in a tracking delay of about 20 minutes. Once Xovian Aerospace launches its own spectrum-scanning RF payload satellite, tracking time is expected to reduce to a few minutes.

"We are in talks with ISRO and international launch providers to deploy our indigenously developed satellite this financial year," Bhateja added.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh laid the foundation stone for a Large Cavitation Tunnel at the Naval Science & Technological Laboratory, a premier lab of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), in Visakhapatnam on Friday

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is welcomed with a garland by party workers at an NDA election campaign event at the Tiruvalla Municipal Stadium on Saturday | SHAJI VETTIPURAM

Modi slams LDF, UDF over Sabari theft row

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Pathanamthitta

GIVING an impetus to NDA's poll campaign in Kerala, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday tore into the LDF and UDF, accusing them of deliberately delaying justice and investigation into Sabarimala gold theft row. Addressing a massive campaign rally in Tiruvalla, he said strict action would be taken against those responsible for the theft at the hill shrine if the NDA comes to power in Kerala.

He further said the "days of the LDF government are numbered" in the state. In the second leg of his poll campaign in the state, after his recent visit to Palakkad and Thrissur, Modi also took out a high-octane roadshow in Thiruvananthapuram in the evening, where thousands of party workers and supporters lined up the streets -- waving flags and showering petals -- to catch a glimpse of the prime minister. In Tiruvalla, Modi began his speech by offering prayers to Lord Ayyappa. Placing the Sabarimala gold theft issue at the centre of his attack on the LDF and UDF, he accused the two fronts of failing to protect the sanctity of the shrine. "Earlier, both the UDF and the LDF conspired to undermine the sanctity of the hill shrine. What began as attempts to dilute traditions has now escalated to allegations of theft within the sacred premises," he said.

He said there appears to be a pattern in these incidents. "When such issues arise during the LDF's tenure, the trail of accountability extends to elements linked to the UDF as well," he said, pointing to a "larger nexus between the two fronts". "That is why the LDF government is reluctant to seek a CBI probe. The Congress, on the other hand, has historically distanced itself from Hindu beliefs and customs, and is now merely 'acting' as a well-wisher for political gains," he said.

Modi expressed confidence that the NDA would form its first government in the state, citing what he described as a "growing wave of change". Modi said both the LDF and UDF call each other BJP's 'B-team' because they know that the BJP is the real 'A-team' in this election. Drawing parallels with protests against the Citizenship Amendment Act, he said those who had earlier "misled the nation" were now spreading lies about the FCRA as well. "They have taken a 'quotation' to spread lies against every good initiative," the PM said, accusing the two fronts of acting as "secret partners" in Kerala's politics. He asserted that the BJP-led NDA remains the only alternative in the state.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi with party leaders during a public meeting ahead of the Kerala Assembly elections, in Ernakulam, Kerala, on Saturday | PTI

Secret alliance between LDF, BJP, alleges Rahul

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Idukki/Alappuzha/Kochi

LEADER of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Saturday intensified his campaign in Kerala with rallies across strategically chosen constituencies in three districts — Alappuzha, Ernakulam and Idukki -- sharpening his attack on the CPM-led Left Democratic Front (LDF) and the BJP.

Addressing gatherings in Ambalappuzha in Alappuzha, Kochi and Kunnathunadu in Ernakulam, and Kattappana in Idukki, Rahul alleged the existence of a "hidden alliance" between the LDF and the BJP-RSS combine, claiming that the apparent electoral contest between the LDF and the Congress-led UDF masked a deeper political understanding.

At Kattappana, he told a large gathering that while the BJP attacks minorities across the country, the Left in Kerala is "quietly accepting" its support. In Kochi, he went further, alleging that both the LDF and the BJP were working in tandem against the UDF. He accused the ruling front of being compromised and claimed that Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan was relying on the "protection" of right-wing forces. He also criticised Prime Minister Narendra Modi, alleging that his silence on Kerala issues reflected political convenience. In Kochi, Ernakulam DCC president Mohammed Shiyas is locked in a stiff contest with CPM's two-time sitting MLA K J Maxi.

Rahul's 'Left will vanish' remark sparks row

A political row erupted after Gandhi claimed that the Left Front would "cease to exist" after the assembly elections, prompting the CPM to raise serious questions over the intent behind the Congress leader's statement. Campaigning in Alappuzha, Gandhi, in a sharp attack on the LDF, said that "after the election, there would be nothing left of the Left Front." The statement has opened a Pandora's box, with the CPM accusing Gandhi of effectively aligning with the BJP. "Congress should clarify whether Rahul's strategy is to dismantle the Left and, in doing so, clear the BJP's path," said MA Baby. "We have doubts as to whether Gandhi is being influenced by the ideas in 'Bunch of Thoughts' written by MS Golwalkar, which portray Muslims, Christians and Communists as internal threats.

Entry of women: 9-judge bench to hear Sabari review on Tuesday

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @ New Delhi

A nine-judge bench of the Supreme Court will start hearing a batch of petitions seeking review of its Sabarimala case verdict on discrimination against women, from April 7 (Tuesday), two days before Kerala goes to polls. The review pleas challenge the 2018 verdict, which held that the traditional ban on women aged 10–50 years to enter the Sabarimala was unconstitutional.

The bench comprises Chief Justice Surya Kant and justices B V Nagarathna, M M Sundresh, Ahsanuddin Amanullah, Aravind Kumar, Augustine George Masih, Prasanna B Varale, R Mahadevan and Joymalya Bagchi. The court in its last hearing on February 16 had indicated the timeline for the hearing. "The hearing will begin at 10.30 am. The review petitioners shall be heard from April 7 to 9. The parties opposing the review will be heard from April 16-17. Rejoinder submissions will be heard on April 21," a three-judge bench said on February 16.

SHAH SEEKS ADVICE FROM SEERS AT SANT SAMAGAM

BENGALURU: Union Home Minister Amit Shah and RSS Sarsanghchalak Mohan Bhagwat attended the annual 'Sant Samagam' organised by the Vishwa Hindu Parishad under the guidance of Adi Chunchanagiri Math head Sri Nirmalanandanatha Swamiji at Nagarur near Nelamangala on Saturday. They held deliberations on safeguarding Hindu religion and culture with the religious heads. Over hundred prominent religious heads, including the Pejwar seer, from 28 states, including Karnataka, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal participated in the two-day meet. Shah also sought their advice, according to sources. Since it was a closed door event, the media was not allowed. When Shah landed at HAL Airport in Bengaluru on Friday night, BJP state president B Y Vijayendra apprised him about the bypolls to Davanagere South and Bagalkot. Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council Chalavadi Narayanaswamy and MP P C Mohan were also present. ENS

Stalin and Pradhan clash over CBSE 3-language policy

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

TAMIL Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin and Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan engaged in a war of words on social media over the implementation of the three-language policy in CBSE schools from Class 6, as reported by TNSE.

Stalin termed the move "not an innocent academic reform but a calculated and deeply concerning attempt at linguistic imposition". In response, Pradhan said portraying multilingualism as a threat was misplaced.

Stalin alleged that the three-language formula, presented as a means to promote Indian languages, was in reality a covert mechanism to expand Hindi in non-Hindi-speaking regions. He questioned the lack of "reciprocity", asking whether students in Hindi-speaking states would be required to learn southern languages such as Tamil, Telugu, Kannada or Malayalam. He further said the Union government had failed to make Tamil a mandatory language in Kendriya Vidyalaya schools and had not appointed adequate Tamil teachers. Questioning whether the centre understood ground realities such as teacher availability, training capacity and infrastructure, Stalin described the policy as an ill-conceived move.

EXPRESS READ

ISRO starts Mission Mitra

BENGALURU: THE Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) announced the onset of Mission Mitra, a first-of-its-kind team behavioural study. The mission is being conducted in Leh from April 2-9, 2026. The ISRO team said, crew safety and performance are the most critical elements of all human spaceflight missions. The ability of the crew to communicate effectively, adapt to stress, maintain psychological resilience and support one another determines the success and safety of any mission. Analogue missions conducted under controlled yet realistic conditions are utilised to understand how the crew will perform under challenging conditions. The high altitude of around 3,500 metres has the required environmental conditions to test for hypoxia, low temperature and isolation as a natural analogue for spaceflight operations. The mission was virtually inaugurated by ISRO Chairman V Narayanan on April 2, along with Air Commodore NK Tripathy, Director, Institute of Aerospace Medicine; DK Singh, Director Human Space Flight Centre; Ganesh M Pillai, Scientific Secretary, ISRO and Hanamantray Baluragi, Director, Human Space Programme from Bengaluru. Narayanan said the scientific data generated on the crew performance and human factors will contribute to the Gaganyaan programme and future long-duration missions. ENS

Siddu to campaign in Kasaragod today

VINCENT D'SOUZA @Mangaluru

KARNATAKA Chief Minister Siddaramaiah is set to campaign in poll-bound Kerala on Sunday, where he will address election rallies in the Kannadiga-dominated Manjeshwara Assembly constituency in Kasaragod district.

The Chief Minister is scheduled to arrive at Mangaluru International Airport at 4 pm and will head straight to Manjeshwar, where he will address two rallies-at Vorkady at 5 pm and Mulleria at 6.30 pm-before returning to Bengaluru.

Political activity from Karnataka has intensified in the border constituency over the past week, with leaders from Dakshina Kannada actively campaigning in support of their respective party candidates. The seat has turned into a key battleground, with sitting MLA AKM Ashraf of the UDF seeking re-election, while the BJP has fielded K. Surendran, who was unsuccessful in his multiple attempts. Mangaluru City South MLA D Vedavyas Kamath of the BJP and Puttur MLA Ashok Kumar Rai of the Congress have been actively campaigning on the ground. Rai criticised the BJP's campaign strategy, challenging Surendran to seek votes based on performance rather than religion. He warned against attempts to divide people along communal lines, describing Kerala as a traditionally peaceful state.

Kamath emphasised the need for an NDA-led government in Kerala, alleging misgovernance by the ruling dispensation and expressing confidence that voters are rallying behind the BJP.

Easter special mag 'Jesus' released

ENS @Bengaluru

A special Easter magazine titled 'Jesus', brought out by The New Indian Express, was released in Bengaluru by Chris Group Chairman Robert Christopher and Archbishop of Bengaluru Peter Machado on Saturday.

Archbishop Machado highlighted the significance of Easter, which coincides with International Peace Day this year. He highlighted the message of peace and harmony associated with Jesus Christ. Archbishop Machado also expressed concern over the prevailing global conflicts and the lack of harmony, calling for greater awareness and commitment to peace. He also emphasised on human rights and the need to avoid war and destruction and said such occasions should reinforce collective efforts toward building a more peaceful world.

On Easter, TNSE brings out a magazine, titled "Jesus." Here, Dr Robert Christopher, Chairman Chris Group & Most Rev Dr Peter Machado release the magazine

BROTHERS MURDER MAN FOR HARASSING MARRIED WOMAN

BENGALURU: A 22-year-old man was murdered on Saturday in JC Nagar for reportedly harassing a married woman. It was suspected to be a case of road rage as the victim's bike had brushed against a two-wheeler of one of the accused on Friday. The deceased, Vijay alias Layout Vijay, was repeatedly stabbed and left to die on the spot. The police later arrested brothers Uday Kiran and Vinod Kumar. On Friday, Vijay's two-wheeler had brushed against Vinod's bike and the duo had got into a heated argument. On Saturday, Vinod and Uday went to Viay's house, but they could not find him. They then called Vijay to meet them near a bar. When the accused questioned Vijay allegedly about him repeatedly calling and messaging a woman and harassing her, an argument broke out between them. ENS

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NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13 (2) OF THE SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002

The following borrowers and co-borrowers availed the below mentioned secured loans from **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)** The loans of the below-mentioned borrowers and co-borrowers have been secured by the mortgage of their respective properties. As they have failed to adhere to the terms and conditions of the respective loan agreements and had become irregular, their loan were classified as NPA as per the RBI guidelines. Amounts due by them to **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)** are mentioned as per respective notices issued more particularly described in the following table and further interest on the said amounts shall also be applicable and the same will be charged as per contractual rate with effect from their respective dates.

Sr No.	Loan Account No.	Type of Loan	Name of borrowers and co-borrowers	Section 13 (2) Notice Date	Outstanding amount as per Section 13 (2) Notice
1	94066632	Loan Against Property	1. SUKANYA S 2. SHIVALINGEGOWDA D	26.02.2026	INR 5,33,442.29/-

Property Address : All That Piece And Parcel Of The Property Bearing No. 133/114, Having RDPR Unique Code No./Property No. And E-Katha No. 152900202600200122, According To Form No. 11B Issued By The Office Of The Rural Development & Panchayath Raj, Maralebekuppe Grama Panchayathi, Situated At Krishnayyanadoddi Village, Kanakapura Taluk And Ramanagara District, Karnataka-562117, Measuring East To West 9.144 Meters And North To South 8.22 Meters, In Total Measuring 75.13 Sq. Meters And Building Thereon 55.70 Sq. Meters And The Property **Bounded As: East:** House Of Krishnappa **West:** Govt. Road **North:** Site Of Gangegowda **South:** House Of Siddegowda

You are hereby called upon to pay the amounts to **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)** as per the details shown in the above table with contracted rate of interest thereupon from their respective dates and other costs, charges etc., within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to initiate proceedings, under Section 13 (4) and section 14 of the SARFAESI Act, against the mortgaged properties mentioned hereinabove to realize the amount due to **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)**. Further you are prohibited under Section 13 (13) of the said Act from transferring the said secured assets either by way of sale/lease or otherwise.

Sd/-,
Authorized Officer
IDFC First Bank Limited
Date : 05.04.2026 (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and
Place : Ramanagara-Karnataka presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that my client **Smt. Bharathi Jagannatha,** aged about 63 years, W/o Sri. M. V. Jagannatha, residing at No. 18/A, 624/16, Sneha Nilaya, 3rd Main 10th A Cross, Near Rameshwara Temple, Ittamadu Layout, Banashankari 3rd Stage 3rd Phase, Bangalore 560085, has lost the original Betterment Charges bearing receipt No. 70436 dated 18/03/1998 and the Encumbrance Certificate bearing application no. 470/25-26 for the period from 1/1/1993 to 31/3/2004 pertaining to the property bearing No. 18/A, 624/16, Sneha Nilaya, 3rd Main 10th A Cross, Near Rameshwara Temple, Ittamadu Layout, Banashankari 3rd Stage 3rd Phase, Bangalore 5600085. On 01/04/2026 near Kanakadasa Circle, Rajarajeshwarinagar, Bengaluru and a complaint in this regard have also been lodged before the **Bangalore City Police, vide Lost report 2134161/2026 dated 01/04/2026.**

Any person/s who may be in possession of the aforesaid documents is hereby requested to return the same to the undersigned. Any person/s having any claim, right, title, interest or objection in respect of the aforesaid property shall intimate the undersigned in writing within **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice, failing which such claims shall be deemed to have been waived.

RAM M K
Advocate
No. 113-F, 5-D, 5th Floor,
Central Chambers, 2nd Main,
Gandhinagar, Bengaluru – 560009
Ph: 9986696046

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby put to Notice that my client **Sunil Kumar V.C.** S/o Chandregowda, aged about 38 years, R/at No.40, Near Marval Felicity Apartment, Avalahalli, BDA Layout, Anjanapura Main Road, J.P. Nagar 9th Phase, Bengaluru-560062 intends to purchase vacant site /property from one Suresh earlier owner, he is the absolute owner of the site he acquired from sale deed thereafter having E Katha in his name formed in Sy. No. 10/3, situated at Kotanuru Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Site No. 15, measuring East to West: 30 feet North to South: 40 feet, total 1200 Sq. feet. and Sy. No. 10/3, situated at Kotanuru Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Site No. 16, measuring East to West: 30 feet North to South: 40 feet, total 1200 Sq. feet. If anybody has any charge, lien, interest or title or claim or agreement on the schedule property they should come forthwith copies of the document in support of such claim and produce the same to me are the undersigned are to my client within **15 days** from the date of publication of this notice, in the event no such legally tenable claim is received, my client shall proceed with the purchase of the schedule property as if no such claims exist or that they have been waived or abandoned.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Item No.1: All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Site No.15, for in Sy. No. 10/3, Katha No. 10-3-15, situated at Kotanuru Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, measuring East to West: 30 feet North to South: 40 feet, total 1200 Sq. feet., and bounded on : **East by:** Site No.14, **West by:** Site No.16, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Site No.3.

Item No.2: All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Site No.16, for in Sy. No. 10/3, Katha No.10-3-16, situated at Kotanuru Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, measuring East to West: 30 feet North to South: 40 feet, total 1200 Sq. feet., and bounded on: **East by:** Site No.15, **West by:** Now Road, (Previous Site No.17), **North by:** Road, **South by:** Site No.7.

RAVI SHANKAR K.P. Advocate,
No. 14/B, 2nd Floor, HMS Complex,
Cubbonpet Main Road, Bengaluru-560 002.
Mob: 9343763382.

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Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad
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Admission to JRF Programme 2026

Advt. No. PRL/JRF/02-2026

Online Applications are invited for admission to Junior Research Fellowship Programme 2026

Important Dates

- Starting of filling up the online application form: 02-04-2026
- Last date for filling up the online application form: 30-04-2026
- Interview Dates: 8 to 11 June, 2026
- The upper age limit is **28** years as on **01.07.2026**

For more details and online application form please visit **https://www.prl.res.in/prl-eng/phd.**

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E-AUCTION NOTICE

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE ASSETS UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH PROVISO TO RULES 8(6) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **Actual / Physical Possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of CSB Bank Limited Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" and "without recourse basis" on 13.05.2026** for recovery of **Rs.3,63,01,192.14 (Rupees Three Crores Sixty Three Lakhs One Thousand One Hundred Ninety Two and Paise Fourteen only) as on 28.02.2026** plus interest and penal interest and other expenses from **01.03.2026 due** to **CSB Bank Ltd, Vijayanagar Branch** Secured Creditor from **Borrower : (1) M/s. V V Trading, Partnership Firm,** No.62/1, 5th Cross, 15th Main Road, Pete Channappa Industrial Estate, Kamakshipalya, Bangaluru, Karnataka-560 079, **(2) Mr.G Venkata Swamy**, S/o.Mr.Govindasawamy K, residing at No.115, 70th cross, 15th Main Road, 5th block, behind R P A School, Rajajinagar, Bangaluru, Karnataka- 560 010. **(3) Mrs.Sathya Priya,** W/o. Mr.G Venkata Swamy, residing at No.115, 70th cross, 15th Main Road, 5th block, behind R P A School, Rajajinagar, Bangaluru, Karnataka- 560 010 **(4) Mr. J Ramesh**, S/o. Mr.C N Jaydev, residing at No.1524, Spoorthy residence, 15th main road, M C layout, Vijayanagar, Bangalore- 560 040. **(5) Renuka Ramesh,** W/o. Mr. J Ramesh, residing at No.1524, Spoorthy residence, 15th main road, M C layout, Vijayanagar, Bangalore- 560 040 **(6) Mr.Raghu G,** S/o.Mr.Govindasawamy K, residing at No.115, 70th cross, 5th block, behind R P A School, Rajajinagar, Karnataka- 560 010.

Reserve Price Fixed	EMD to be Deposited
Rs.90,00,000/-	Rs.9,00,000/-

Bid will increased by an amount of Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only) in each turn of property mentioned above.

DETAILS OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES TO BE SOLD IN E-AUCTION:

All those pieces and parcels of property bearing site No 1524, LIG House formed by Karnataka Housing Board, Bengaluru, at M C Road, Vijayanagar, Extension, Bengaluru 560040 admeasuring east to West 40 feet and north to South 60 feet, In all measuring 2400 Sq.Ft now within the administrative limits of BBMP, ward No.35, Bengaluru as per the records of BBMP bearing new municipality No.6, Old No.365/1524, situated at 15th main road, MRCR Bengaluru and apartment bearing No.365/1524/6/1-A1,PID No.35-25-6/1-GF in the ground floor of the building constructed on schedule A property measuring 1200 Sq.Ft of super build up area; North by : Road, South by : Site No.1539, East by : Site No.1523, West by : Site No.1225.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in "Sale of Property" Secured Creditor's website i.e. **www.csb.bank.in** and e-auction service provider's website : **https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net**

Date & Time of E-Auction : 13.05.2026, between 10.30 am and 11.30 am (with unlimited extension of 5 minutes duration each till the conclusion of the sale)

Last Date for receipt of Tender documents (online): 12.05.2026 before 12 Noon. Scanned copy of the tender should be sent to arbcbe@csb.bank.in on or before 12.05.2026 before 12 Noon. Hard copy of the Tender Documents should be submitted on or before 12.05.2026 before 12 Noon to the authorised officer in a sealed cover.

Portal of E-Auction: https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net

LAST DATE FOR RECEIPT OF EMD : 12.05.2026 before 12.00 Noon.

EMD may be deposited in the "CSB E-auction Sale Account" maintained at College Road Branch, Thrissur with account No. 0094020047244, IFSC Code CSBK0000231 through NEFT/RTGS.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "Sale of Property in CSB Bank Ltd website (www.csb.bank.in) or may contact Authorised Officer / Chief Manager, CSB Bank Ltd. Asset Recovery Branch (Ph–94435 48411, 9605791659, 9846157188) e-mail id :arbcbe@csb.bank.in during office hours on any working day.

(Sd/-) Authorised Officer
CSB Bank Ltd.
Date : 30.03.2026

"In order for me to write poetry that isn't political I must listen to the birds, and in order to hear the birds the warplanes must be silent

Marwan Makhoul

KINGS AND RULERS: WHEN THE CROWN GOES TO THE HEAD

AMERICA was born in revolt against a mad king who forced a tax on tea. The exit of King George III and the formation of the US of A is a chapter of history that aged well. Or that's what we thought till the world found itself in a familiar place again. The 47th US President has, effectively, imposed a tariff on Americans today.

The yo-yo of words and events is dizzying. On Wednesday, Donald J Trump declared victory in Operation Epic Fury. On Friday, he said the war would take two more weeks, as Iran shot down an F15-E and an A10 fighter jet. Not every American marched to "No kings" chants at the recent protests, but most are caught between the split-screen of Trump's Truth posts and truths. A world turned asunder is wondering and global leaders are asking if the madman act is a reality!

History offers some clues. Roman Emperor Caligula, aka Gaius Caesar Augustus Germanicus, led an invasion of Britain in 40 CE. He took his army to the English Channel, went into the sea in his trireme, turned back and asked his soldiers to collect seashells in their helmets and tunics as spoils of the ocean. In 1812, Napoleon invaded Russia, aiming for a swift victory. The Russians decimated his *Grande Armée*, triggering the end of Napoleon's empire.

Cut to the present era of grand illusions. Trump maintains that his tariffs are a $600-billion success story. Fact check: the US Supreme Court ruled against it and a trade court ordered refunds. The US-Israel attacks were aimed at 'obliterating' Iranian nuclear and missile sites that were claimed to have been 'obliterated' in June 2025, too. This week, Trump declared Iran must reopen the Strait of Hormuz or the US would 'obliterate' its power plants. Is the war about restoring order as it was before the war itself, which started with the US's strikes on February 28? The fog of war clouds reason. The US, with its track record in Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan, should know this better than others.

THE THIRD EYE

SHANKKAR AIYAR

Author of *The Gated Republic*, *Aadhaar: A Biometric History of India's 12 Digit Revolution*, and *Accidental India*

shankkar.aiyar@gmail.com

Trump expressed surprise that Iran attacked other Gulf nations and choked Hormuz. His surprise is incredulous as both his Intelligence Director Tulsi Gabbard and CIA Director John Ratcliffe testified before Congress that Trump had been warned about the fallout. Joe Kent, a MAGA loyalist and chief of counterterrorism, quit urging the president to reverse course as Iran posed "no imminent threat" to the US. Kent said the war was the result of "pressure from Israel and its powerful American lobby".

The question is whether the ruler hears or listens. German Emperor Kaiser Wilhelm II sacked Otto von Bismarck in 1890 as he desired global expansion and Bismarck didn't agree. He let the treaty with Russia lapse, allowing France, Russia and Britain to come together in World War I. The reasons for Hitler's invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941 ranged between delusion and economic desperation. A practitioner of segmented lies, Hitler gave his generals a set of reasons and the German people something else.

Leaders with unprecedented victories or fortuitous rise to power often suffer from hubris—a list that includes Margaret Thatcher, George W Bush and Tony Blair in the modern era. In essence, they come to believe their own myths. That produces a domination delusion, which breeds arrogance, contempt for criticism and a sense of impunity. A crisis in such a circumstance triggers 'bystander behaviour'. In 1968, psychologists John Darley and Bibb Latané found a simple rule: the more people witness something going wrong, the less likely that anyone would intervene. The fiction survives as long as it serves convenience.

There is a thin line separating narcissism from out-of-body delusions. Trump loves awards—even those given to others. He likes to be praised regularly, like King Lear, by his cabinet. He insists on his signature on American currency and his name on iconic places. His scatter-shots of distraction include rants about sharpie pens, about Bruce Springsteen looking like a dried prune, about his YouTube clips from 1980 to 2024, and a cryptic post that said 'Kangaroo court' with three exclamation marks but no explanation. He let Pete Hegseth sack the army chief in the midst of a war. On Saturday, as US forces were said to be searching for the missing crew of the downed jet, he posted, 'Keep the oil, anyone?'

The past is not necessarily a prologue, but it does illuminate personalities going off-kilter. Caligula declared himself a living god; his court played along till his Praetorian guards killed him. Benito Mussolini, who dreamt of another shiny Roman empire, was hung upside down in Milan. Charles VI of France had episodes where he thought he was made of glass and would shatter if touched; his court worked with the delusion to preserve the pretence of a functioning regime. George III spoke to oak trees. Woodrow Wilson believed he was god's envoy for peace in the world. Richard Nixon would wander off at night and speak to portraits hung on While House walls.

A year back, Trump told an interviewer, "I run the country and the world." Today, his Nato allies are not willing to clean up his mess, the courts are not playing ball, the trade deal with China is iffy, the US Congress is unlikely to clear his dream of a $1.5-trillion defence budget, and his party thinks it will be shellacked at the midterm elections. A year later, the question is: who is willing to tango with Trump?

INTO THE ERA OF TECHNO DIPLOMACY

OPINION

SHASHI THAROOR

Lok Sabha MP, Chair of the Standing Committee on External Affairs and Sahitya Akademi-winning author

office@tharoor.in

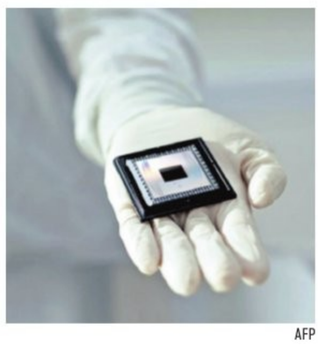
THE contemporary international system increasingly reflects a paradox: deep economic interdependence coexisting with profound strategic distrust. Globalisation has integrated markets and supply chains over the past three decades, yet recent developments suggest that integration has not produced political convergence. Instead, economic links are increasingly being deployed as instruments of pressure and leverage.

We are living in an era of 'weaponised interdependence'. Networks originally designed to facilitate global commerce, financial messaging systems, digital infrastructure and logistics chains now enable States that control key nodes in those networks to exert pressure on others.

The erosion of trust among major powers further complicates this picture. Countries remain deeply interconnected economically, yet political confidence between them has diminished. The result is a system in which States continue to rely on each other economically while simultaneously seeking to reduce strategic vulnerabilities. This tension—interdependence without trust—is likely to remain one of the defining characteristics of the emerging international order.

The notion of a cooperative 'global village', once the defining metaphor of the post-Cold-War era, appears to be giving way to a far more competitive environment in which nations openly use trade restrictions, tariffs and export controls as tools of statecraft. A dramatic example of this was the sharp tariff measures imposed by the US on several partners; another, China's decision to restrict the export of critical rare earth minerals to India and the US. Supply chains themselves have become geopolitical battlegrounds.

The present international landscape is now less a coherent structure than a mosaic of intersecting crises and competing priorities. Security rivalries, technological competition, climate pressures and economic protectionism now interact in ways that make the global system far less predictable than in earlier decades. Geopolitical tensions are no longer confined to traditional military theatres. Increasingly, they manifest through disruptions in global markets, restrictions on critical technologies, or manipulation of supply chains. A single policy decision can reverberate across industries, financial markets and diplomatic relationships.



AFP

The strategic environment is also being shaped by the growing role of emerging technologies. A defining transformation in contemporary geopolitics is that technological infrastructure has replaced territory as the primary arena of strategic competition. While territorial disputes still matter, the decisive contests today revolve around who controls the digital architecture of the global economy—from semiconductor fabrication ecosystems and cloud infrastructure for data to artificial intelligence platforms and global payment systems.

The ability to exclude countries such as Iran or Russia from international financial networks demonstrates how control over technological systems can translate directly into geopolitical leverage. The US and its partners have attempted to restrict China's access to advanced chips and manufacturing equipment, recognising that control over semiconductor technology determines leadership in everything from AI to military systems.

The emerging hierarchy in these domains is far more concentrated than the geopolitical distribution of power itself. AI, digital infrastructure and data governance are rapidly becoming arenas of competition between major powers. This technological rivalry overlays the existing geopolitical rivalries, producing a much more complex strategic landscape.

In this sense, data has become the new currency of geopolitical influence. Nations that command the pipelines through which information flows—digital platforms, financial messaging systems, data storage networks—possess a form of structural power that can shape the choices of others without firing a single shot. AI leadership, semiconductor supply chains, advanced manufacturing capabilities and digital standards now constitute the core of geopolitical rivalry. These developments suggest that the emerging geopolitical contest is less about territorial expansion and more about who sets the technological rules of the global economy—who designs the chips, who trains the algorithms and who governs the data.

This produces a curious hybrid world order: politically multipolar, yet technologically asymmetric. While more countries today exercise geopolitical agency than during the Cold War, the digital architecture of the global economy remains dominated by a relatively small group of technologically advanced powers. For middle and rising-power States such as India, the challenge lies in navigating this environment without allowing technological dependency to translate into strategic vulnerability.

In an environment where nations are increasingly pursuing diversification strategies—building alternative supply chains, expanding trade partnerships and strengthening domestic capabilities—diplomacy requires not rigid alliances, but flexible engagement across multiple partnerships. Countries must simultaneously cooperate, compete and hedge their strategic bets—a delicate balancing act that has become a central feature of modern statecraft.

For countries like India, this transformation carries profound implications. Strategic autonomy in the 21st century will depend not only on military capability or economic strength, but also on technological resilience—the ability to build, regulate and secure one's own digital ecosystem without succumbing either to data colonialism from the West or digital conquest by China.

The technological dimension of this balancing act has become particularly complex. The US continues to dominate the global digital economy through its technology giants, cloud infrastructure and financial networks, while China has developed an alternative technological ecosystem spanning telecommunications, digital payments and AI. As competition between these ecosystems intensifies, the risk is that the world may gradually fragment into competing digital spheres of influence. Countries could find themselves compelled to align with one technological architecture or another, whether through semiconductor supply chains, AI platforms, or digital governance frameworks.

This raises an important strategic question: can technological autonomy coexist with deep global integration? For India, the answer lies not in isolation but in carefully cultivating indigenous capabilities while remaining open to international collaboration.

India's approach increasingly reflects this philosophy. Initiatives such as digital public infrastructure, India stack, and the expansion of digital payment systems like UPI across multiple countries illustrate an effort to build sovereign technological capabilities while simultaneously offering digital public goods to the world. Walking this tightrope in the digital age will require more than diplomatic agility. It will require technological capability, regulatory sovereignty and strategic partnerships that prevent dependence on any single digital ecosystem.

The goal, ultimately, is digital sovereignty—the capacity to engage confidently with global technological networks without surrendering control over one's own data, infrastructure and innovation pathways. The future is now. We must seize it.

(Views are personal)

BEYOND SCREEN HABITS & SOCIAL MEDIA BANS

OPINION

GEETHA RAVICHANDRAN

Former bureaucrat and author of *The Spell of the Rain Tree*

WHEN social media opened its portals two decades ago, users reacted with a sense of wonder. It was like stepping into a brave new world of promise. The onboarding was seamless, it involved no cost and offered opportunities for new and profitable connections. But today, social media companies face scrutiny across the globe for the impact of their algorithmic curation and monetisation of the attention economy.

India has an estimated 50 crore unique social media users, according to research firm DataReportal. With cheap data and wide access to the internet and smartphones, the country's market is attractive to social media companies. Thus, the conduct of Big Tech is of relevance to users in India.

Recently, a California jury awarded $6 million in damages to a young woman after finding Meta and Google liable for mental health harm caused by their addictive platforms that she began using as a child. The landmark judgement considered the structural design of the platforms and their algorithm-driven operations that reward prolonged engagement and doomscrolling. While laws in most countries delink social media companies from liability for the content, this judgement points to something more basic—product design that aims to keep users engaged and addicted.

The effect of social media on children is an area of emerging concern. Researchers have pointed out that children are vulnerable not only to inappropriate content but also to behavioural and developmental issues. The amount of time spent on social media affects academic performance, disrupts sleep and alters social dynamics.

Psychologist Jonathan Haidt, author of *The Anxious Generation*, talks about the shift from a play-based childhood to a screen-based one. In the latter, a craving for validation triggers a dopamine loop—when there is diminishing reinforcement, it results in withdrawal and mental health issues. This rewiring of brains when they are at a crucial developmental stage has raised alarms in several countries, with Australia being the first nation to ban social media platforms for children under 16 years. Others like Malaysia, France and Denmark are also in the process of implementing social media bans for children.

In India, the area of law governed by the Information and Technology Act, 2000 and its rules has focused on laying down timelines to take down prohibited content, deepfakes and tackle the spread of misinformation. While platforms are protected by 'safe harbour' rules from liability for content, there are changes being proposed in these rules, a move that has raised concerns about freedom of expression and excessive regulation. However, the urgent debate now is about curbing social media use for young children to tackle screen addiction, erase exposure to unsafe online content and tackle mental health issues.

As a recent verdict in the US accepted, social media platforms rewire young brains by rewarding addictive behaviour. While we look at restricting usage among adolescents, we must inform adults on their ills

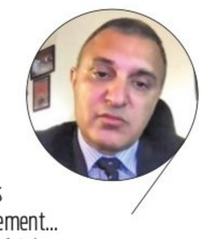
Karnataka has proposed a law and Andhra Pradesh is contemplating one on this issue. The measures have received the support of educationists who are in a position to observe first-hand the deterioration in the quality of learning and increased distraction. Questions are also being raised about screen-based learning devices that, while allowing access to large troves of information, encourage scrolling and fail to incentivise in-depth analysis. A trope for the current times is 'writing with thumbs', which seems to prevail over using the brain. With the added use of artificial intelligence tools, the future trajectory of social media growth appears nothing short of dizzying.

However, legislation alone will not be able to handle the growing problems associated with excessive social media use in children. Age verification checks are not foolproof. Guardians need to take measures to ensure that the potential for long-term damage is nixed. When children at a sensitive stage of development are subject to a constant barrage of posts and feeds, it affects the neuro-plasticity of their brain. Reward-seeking on social media promotes imitative and performative behaviour.

For many adults, it is a platform for staying connected, doing business, entertainment and even learning. Among senior citizens, it is known to reduce feelings of loneliness. Hence it's essential to create awareness and understanding of the model on which social media is built. These platforms read their users like a book. However, their business practices are opaque and need to be subjected to informed debate.

Tim Cook, CEO of Apple, recently said, "I don't want people looking at the smartphone more than they're looking in someone's eyes." Here's hoping the balance would be maintained.

QUOTE CORNER



It is now proposed that legal recognition of gender identity shall be conditioned upon certification, scrutiny, or other forms of administrative endorsement. What was recognised by the Supreme Court as an inviolable aspect of personhood now risks being reduced to a contingent, State-mediated entitlement... Selfhood is not a matter of concession, it is a matter of right.

Justice Arun Monga of the Rajasthan High Court on a petition against lack of reservation for transgender individuals in institutions and jobs

Fundamentally, this is an apartheid regime. There are entire sets of laws that differentiate between Jews and Palestinians. It goes back to 1948.

Yair Dvir, spokesman for rights group B'Tselem, after Israel passed a death penalty law that solely targets Palestinians

We are getting a beautiful view of the dark side of Earth, lit by the Moon.

Jeremy Hansen, mission specialist aboard Artemis II spacecraft

MAILBAG WRITE TO letters@newindianexpress.com

Averting inflation

Ref: *Be ready to deploy rare measures* (Apr 4). The rupee's weakness reveals the exhaustion of conventional RBI tactics, as dollar sales and arbitrage curbs only delay pressure. With crude prices stay stubbornly high, extraordinary instruments such as swap windows, liquidity tightening and import restrictions must be prepared. Inflation's currency sensitivity demands vigil for structural fragility.

Babu Crishna, Bengaluru

Zionist reasoning

Ref: *First US jet downed* (Apr 4). Why does the West contemptuously call Iran's government a 'regime'? Is it because it's an autocracy? No, many countries today are autocratic, including the West's bosom buddies like Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Egypt. Is it because it's an Islamic theocracy oppressing women? But then, women are worse off in Taliban-controlled Afghanistan. In Iran, they go to universities and work in government departments. I think the reason is Iran's uncompromising attitude towards the Zionist state of Israel. It is the Zionists who have made the West hate Iran. As the Islamist rulers in Afghanistan, Syria and Türkiye do not hate Israel as much, they are acceptable to the West.

A Kaja Nazimudeen, Eruvadi

Questions galore

Ref: *Endgame ambiguity* (Apr 4). When will the West Asia war be over? Does Trump know? Does Netanyahu? Or do the Revolutionary Guards of Iran? Will Trump take the responsibility for boring us till then? Then he would be exonerated for half of his war crimes. Are the UK and France serious about opening the Strait of Hormuz? What is happening to this mad world?

Philip Alexander, Bengaluru

Moonshot glory

Ref: *Artemis II astronauts blast towards moon* (Apr 3). It's quite fabulous to see the astronauts in zero gravity. Finally, Nasa's dream to re-establish human expeditions to the moon has come true. All credit for this success goes to the scientists and, of course, the brave astronauts who are capable of dealing with harsh conditions. Kudos to all of them.

Simran Poniya, Koraput

Unified voice

Ref: *Congress split on Iran stand as Sharma says politicisation is national disservice* (Apr 4). In a clear indication that not all leaders of the Congress are on the same page on Iran, Anand Sharma has pressed for a review in the party's stand that runs contrary to the government's view and has even termed it as a national disservice. Leaders like Kamal Nath and Shashi Tharoor too have expressed discontent with the party's stance and this should unsettle the top leadership, which continues to seek political leverage on the government's ambivalent attitude. This, however, is no time for politicking or seeking to score brownie points. The need of the hour is radical thinking and ensuring unstinted support to the government as these are trying times.

C V Aravind, email

Disfavouring Odisha

Ref: *Shifting of strategic rail stretch sparks backlash* (Apr 4). Like George Orwell's quote, "All are equal, but some are more than equal", in India's competitive federal structure, hard bargainers always corner more benefits at the expense of gullible states, be it taking a railway division or a larger share of water in an inter-state dispute. Marginalising some states is not conducive for cooperative federalism. It is incumbent upon all stakeholders to act together or face disaster.

Subha Praksh Kanungo, Bhubaneswar

Inhumane treatment

Ref: *HC slams IT firm for firing staff at office gate* (Apr 4). If there is a job, there will be trouble. Once when I was entering my school as a teacher, the manager and ordered the headmaster not to allow me to sign the attendance register. I was stunned and water filled my eyes. I applied for casual leave. After that, I was served a 3-month notice stating that my services were no longer required.

G Purushothaman, Tirunelveli

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Shivraj Singh Chouhan @ChouhanShivraj
Raisen is getting ready for the National Agricultural Fair. Come and join the fair from April 11 to 13, and make farming more profitable.

Akhilesh Yadav @yadavakhilesh
A drone crashed into a wheat field in Etawah district. If this was part of govt testing, citizens should have been informed in advance.

Tejashwi Yadav @yadavtejashwi
With over 21 years of NDA rule and 12 years of double-engine government, Bihar ranks at the lowest levels in most indicators.

Says global world order changing, relative power of societies shifting ● Govt coordinated with 2 nations for rescue

EAM: World is confronted with task of securing itself

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

AS the war in West Asia rages on, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Saturday said the world is increasingly confronted with the task of securing itself in a volatile and unpredictable environment.

"The turbulence in the world currently is also structural in many ways. The global order is changing before our very eyes, with visible shifts in the relative power and influence of countries. The politics of some societies find it difficult to come to terms with these changes," Jaishankar said in an apparent reference to the shifting world order. "New developments in technology, in energy, in military capabilities, in connectivity and in resources have encouraged risk taking in an increasingly competitive environment. Everything today is being leveraged, if not actually weaponised", he said.

The minister went on: "The world is then confronted with the task of securing itself in an increasingly volatile and unpredictable environment. This has necessitated a larger inclination to hedge, to de-risk and to diversify, whether it is a business choice or a foreign policy one. Arriving at an optimal mix of equities, exposure and risks is a more complex calculus."

He was addressing graduating students of IIM Raipur when he made the remarks. "The graduating class must count itself fortunate, because it is part of a generation destined to achieve the goal of Viksit Bharat," he said, adding "You are the beneficiaries of a solid decade of progress and growth. You have gained from access to technology and information that would have been inconceivable barely a generation ago. Today, India is poised to leapfrog in its journey of development, and your cohort will be amongst those that will lead this effort."

He acknowledged the unprecedented challenges defining their era: "Three examples stand out in this decade—the Covid pandemic, global conflicts and climate change."

"The pandemic transformed the very manner in which we worked and lived. Conflicts, even in distant societies, have profound impacts, highlighting the depth of globalisation. And climate change, with extreme events and the erosion of natural habitats, poses both immediate and long-term threats."

Despite these uncertainties, Jaishankar stressed India's resilience. "The prospects of those graduating today are far brighter than before," he said. "The last 10 years have been much better, giving rise to confidence that the next 10 will also be. We are now among the top five economies, and India has successfully navigated multiple global shocks, both domestic and external."

Linking national development to diplomacy and business, Jaishankar urged graduates to understand the global marketplace. "Even at home, we are exposed to foreign products, partners, and services. Understanding different nations and cultures will be professionally rewarding. Diplomacy today expands market access, secures resources, and promotes Brand India abroad."

Fishermen stranded in Iran reach Chennai after transit through Armenia

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

A total of 345 Indian fishermen who were stranded in Iran safely arrived in Chennai Saturday evening after completing a complex overland and air journey that included transit through Armenia.

The group, mostly from Tamil Nadu and other coastal states, landed at the Chennai International Airport on a special flight late in the evening, where they were received by officials. The fishermen had been working in Iranian waters for several months. All returnees have been reported in good health, and local authorities coordinated transport and medical assistance before sending them on to their hometowns.

In coordination with the governments of Iran and Armenia, the External Affairs Ministry facilitated an alternative corridor that first moved the group overland from Iran to Armenia before they boarded the special flight to India. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar thanked his Armenian counterpart Ararat Mirzoyan for his support in enabling the return of the Indian nationals. Senior officials from the Tamil Nadu Fisheries Department and the MEA were present at the airport to oversee arrival formalities and ensure the fishermen received immediate assistance.

> **We warmly welcome all our fishermen. It was a very difficult journey; they had to travel 20 hours to reach Armenia. It is a joyous day for their families**
>
> Piyush Goyal, Union minister

Union minister Piyush Goyal, speaking to reporters in Chennai, described the operation as a "joyous day" for the families of the returnees. "Our brothers and sisters who were suffering in Iran are returning home to their families and their motherland. We warmly welcome all our fishermen," he said, adding that "it was a very difficult journey; they had to travel 20 hours to reach Armenia."

In a separate development, at least 12 people, including five Indians and six Nepali nationals, were injured in Abu Dhabi due to falling debris from Iranian missiles that were intercepted by the United Arab Emirates air defence system on Friday, authorities said. The Abu Dhabi Media Office advised the public to avoid spreading rumours or unverified information about the incident.

The UAE confirmed that five Indian nationals sustained minor to moderate injuries.

5 Indians hurt in Abu Dhabi

At least 12 people, including five Indians, were injured in Abu Dhabi due to falling debris from Iranian missiles that were intercepted by UAE air defence system.

PUJARINI PRADHAN

UNLIKELY VOICE THAT REFUSES TO STAY SMALL

SUBHENDU MAITI

MANDAR PARDIKAR

IN 1899, in an age when Bengal was awakening to new thought and restless inquiry, Rabindranath Tagore wrote Pujarini, a poem of faith and surrender. Its heroine chose conviction over fear and stepped into history through sacrifice. More than a century later, another Pujarini has appeared from Bengal, not in verse but in life, not in legend but on a small glowing phone screen held in her hand.

Pujarini Pradhan does not belong to a court or a classroom. She sits in a modest home in East Midnapore, her backdrop unadorned, her presence unembellished. The walls behind her are worn, the wiring visible, the light ordinary. She wears a simple saree or salwar. Nothing in the frame suggests spectacle. Yet when she begins to speak, the stillness gathers attention. Her words resonate far beyond her village.

A housewife who could not continue her formal education, married early into the quiet routines of hard rural life, Pujarini has shaped an inner world that refuses confinement. Through short videos, she speaks of literature, cinema, caste, faith, and the small and large fractures of society. Her voice is calm but firm, reflective yet unafraid. She speaks in English that is deliberate, marked by a Bengali cadence she does not try to soften.

That voice carries a quiet force. In India, English has long been a language of distance, a signal of privilege and access. Pujarini enters that space without invitation and apology. She speaks of A Thousand Splendid Suns with feeling, of Munshi Premchand with respect, of Stanley Kubrick with curiosity. Her engagement is not borrowed. It rises from reading done in fragments of time.

What draws people to her is not only what she says but the distance she crosses to say it. There is a tension in her presence that is difficult to ignore. A woman from a modest rural background speaks with ease about ideas that are often locked within urban circles. That contrast unsettles expectation. It also draws admiration. Her followers have grown into the lakhs, each drawn to the rare clarity of her thought.

She understands this gaze and meets it without illusion. In one of her videos, she observes that people are intrigued because she is poor and yet speaks in a language often reserved for others.

Her reflections often return to access and exclusion. She speaks of education slipping out of reach as public schools close and private institutions rise beyond affordability. She speaks of women who move through public spaces with caution stitched into their daily lives. Her tone never rises, yet the questions linger.

In one widely shared moment, she responds to the ridicule faced by a vegetable seller who owned an expensive phone. When those without privilege begin to possess what was once denied to them, she says, its value is suddenly questioned.

As her reach expands, so does scrutiny. Some have tried to explain her presence as something designed rather than discovered, as if a voice like hers must be arranged to be believed.

There is an unspoken rule that those from the margins may rise, but only in ways that remain unthreatening. They may inspire, but not unsettle. Pujarini does both.

NEWSMAKER

The attention she has received from media has carried its own contradictions. Her story travels easily across audiences. It fits a familiar arc of struggle and emergence. Yet in that telling, there is the risk of turning a person into a symbol, of smoothing out the complexities that make her real.

Pujarini resists that pull in the only way she can. She speaks for herself and keeps her distance from narratives shaped by others. The story gathers around her, growing with each video and through it all, she continues as she began. No spectacle. No performance. Only a woman, a phone camera, and a mind that refuses to remain silent. What Pujarini Pradhan represents cannot be contained within easy explanations. She is not just a story of aspiration or resilience. She is a presence that asks uncomfortable questions about who gets to speak, who is heard, and why?

In a time when noise often passes for meaning, her restraint can feel radical. She does not demand attention. She earns it, quietly. Like the Pujarini of Tagore's imagination, she offers something of herself to the world. Not her life, but her voice. And that, in its own way, is a form of devotion.

Cong concerned over Nicobar projects, calls for tribal welfare plans

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

CONGRESS leader and AICC General Secretary (Communication) Jairam Ramesh on Saturday questioned the Centre's claims that the proposed infrastructure project on Great Nicobar Island would not displace local tribal communities, pointing to what he described as a "fundamental contradiction" in official statements.

Citing a media report, Ramesh said the Andaman and Nicobar administration has drafted a "Comprehensive Tribal Welfare Plan" that includes provisions for the relocation of Nicobarese families likely to be affected by the project. He raised concerns over the need for such a plan if, as the government maintains, the project would not disturb or displace indigenous groups.

"The bulldozer moves on unmindful of the concerns of the local communities," Ramesh said in a post on 'X'. He added that the existence of a relocation framework undermines the government's assertion. "If the project does not displace tribes, then why is there a relocation plan?" he said.

According to the report cited by him, the draft plan proposes relocating Nicobarese tribal communities from areas impacted either by the project or by past events such as the 2004 tsunami. The document, prepared by the Andaman and Nicobar Islands administration, was circulated on March 13 for consultation with relevant departments and the Tribal Council of Great Nicobar.

Notably, the Great Nicobar mega-infrastructure project has been under scrutiny from environmentalists and tribal rights advocates

'Centre should view states as its coordinates, not subordinates'

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

SUPREME Court Justice B V Nagarathna on Saturday urged the Centre to view states as "coordinates and not subordinates" and asserted that the separation of power was a "constitutional arrangement of co-equals".

Her remarks come ahead of the Assembly elections in Assam, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and the Union territory of Puducherry. In a pointed remark, she also observed that the neutrality of the electoral process could not be ensured if those conducting elections were dependent on those contesting elections.

Delivering a lecture at the Chanakya Law University in Patna, she stressed, "Power, no matter how legitimate its source is, must always remain answerable." Dwelling on discord between the Centre and state governments, she said such disputes should be settled amicably, keeping in view constitutional dharma and the federal spirit of the Constitution. "States are coordinate units of the Constitution and not subordinate to the Centre," she said.

Emphasising the need to safeguard the integrity of the democratic process, Justice Nagarathna said that the strength of the Constitution was not limited only to the rights it guarantees, but it also lay in the robustness of its institutional structure. "Institutions like the Election Commission of India, Comptroller and Auditor General, and the Finance Commission must be independent to preserve constitutionalism," Nagarathna said.

She underscored the importance of horizontal and vertical separation of powers, observing that while legislative and executive accountability were subject to judicial scrutiny, judicial accountability was anchored in the constitutional text.

Plea filed in SC against amended transgender Act

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @ New Delhi

A petition has been filed in the Supreme Court, challenging the constitutionality of the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Amendment Act, 2026. Chairperson of National Council for Transgender Persons (NCTP) Laxmi Narayan Tripathi and member Zainab Patel filed the petition.

The amendment, was passed by Parliament and received the assent of President Droupadi Murmu, taking away the right to self-determination of gender. The petition is expected to come up for hearing within a week, a senior official from the Supreme Court registry told this newspaper. "Keeping in view the sensitivity of the case, the plea will likely to come up for hearing in a week or so," he said. The amendment redefines who qualifies as a "transgender person."

Ease floor area ratio to boost tourism, says panel

PARVEZ SULTAN @ New Delhi

Making room for more
Hotel shortages push tariffs to ₹12–13 lakh/ night, while Bangkok charges ₹25k-45k/ night
India has 1.8 lakh branded +15,000 unbranded hotel rooms, but capacity needs to double
A Rajya Sabha panel has submitted 40+ suggestions to boost tourism, including relaxing FAR norms
NIDHI+ shows 55,414 registered units (Jan 2026); industry calls for tourism status and streamlined approvals

WITH the country facing a significant shortage of tourist accommodations, a parliamentary panel has recommended relaxation in floor area ratio (FAR)—norms for determining the maximum permitted structure size on a piece of land-- to facilitate hotel construction in states with tourism potential.

It has also suggested fast-track rationalisation of licensing requirements to bring approvals below 20 within two years and repeal obsolete regulations. The panel has particularly urged the ministry to abolish or replace the Ministry to Sarais Act, a British-era law that mandates registration for inns and guest houses.

In its latest report submitted to Parliament—comprising over 40 recommendations to give impetus to the tourism sector, Rajya Sabha's standing committee on transport, tourism and culture also asked the ministry of tourism to coordinate with state governments to address hotel capacity constraints and include a hotel capacity augmentation component in the National Mission for 50 Globally Competitive Destinations.

The 31-member committee headed by Janata Dal-United (JDU) MP Sanjay Jha further urged the ministry to place periodic progress reports in this regard in the public domain.

Highlighting the demand and supply gap in hotel rooms, the committee noted that the country currently has around 1.8 lakh branded hotel rooms and about 15,000 units in unbranded properties. According to the industry estimates, the country needs to at least double this capacity. The panel further observed that the acute shortage of hotel rooms leads to a sharp surge in tariffs, with prices reaching as high as ₹12-13 lakh per night during major events. In contrast, competing international destinations such as Bangkok continue to offer accommodation in the range of ₹25,000-45,000 per night even during peak periods, pointing towards India's pricing competitiveness.

The industry representatives termed the recommendations as a welcome step; however, they sought a comprehensive policy push further. The general secretary of the Federation of Associations in Indian Tourism & Hospitality (FAITH), Rajiv Mehra, said that relaxed FAR norms are a positive step and they could enable hotel developers to optimise existing land parcels and add more rooms, thereby partially easing supply constraints.

"However, this alone will not be enough. What the sector needs is a more comprehensive policy push. Granting industry status to tourism and hospitality would improve access to affordable financing, encouraging fresh investments. Equally important is the need to streamline and rationalise the multiple clearances and approvals that hinder project execution," said Mehra.

5 civilians, 1 security personnel killed in 26 Maoist instances till March 15

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

AS the deadline was approaching in 2026, the country witnessed 26 incidents of Maoist-linked violence, as the data prepared by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) revealed that up to March 15, five civilians and one security personnel died in such incidents, whereas 52 insurgents died.

The MHA data, the officials said, however, indicated a decline in left-wing extremism (LWE) across the country. It further showed that the number of LWE-affected districts has substantially come down from 126 in 2013 to a single digit in 2026, which are on the verge of being completely free from the Maoist influence.

A senior MHA official said that, for example, though Bihar has been declared free from Naxalism, four districts of the state – Aurangabad, Gaya, Jamui, and Lakhisarai – have been kept under the 'Thrust & Legacy' category, which continues to receive financial and security support to consolidate gains achieved so far.

Highlighting the decline in violence over the past decade, a senior MHA official, quoting the data, said, "Incidents of LWE-related violence have dropped by 88 per cent, from a peak of 1,936 in 2010 to 234 in 2025. Similarly, fatalities among civilians and security forces have decreased by 90%, from 1,005 in 2010 to 100 in 2025."

Noting that the security forces have further intensified operations against Maoist groups, he said that in 2025 alone, 364 Naxals were neutralised, 1,022 were arrested and 2,337 surrendered.

364 Naxals killed, 1,022 arrested in 2025 alone

In 2025 alone, 364 Naxals were neutralised, 1,022 were arrested and 2,337 surrendered. The number of police stations reporting LWE-related incidents has also fallen significantly, from 465 in 2010 to 119 in 2025. The government has placed emphasis on disrupting financial networks linked to extremist groups, particularly the CPI (Maoist).

MAHA

The administration in Maharashtra's Thane district has launched a fortnight-long disaster preparedness exercise in collaboration with national and state response forces to strengthen emergency response.

4 HELD NEAR INDIA-MYANMAR BORDER IN MANIPUR DIST

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	38	23	Mumbai	35	27
Bhopal	34	19	Panaji	34	27
Jaipur	33	20	Patna	33	20
Amritsar	29	13	Lucknow	34	18
Chennai	32	27	Port Blair	31	25
Kolkata	36	28	Imphal	30	16
Srinagar	18	03	Chandigarh	31	16

Days before polling, party seeks to woo youth with job promise, underplay infiltration issue ● CM hits out at Cong leader over corruption jibe

BJP redraws Assam campaign plank

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

WHEN Assam minister Pijush Hazarika, who addressed the media in Guwahati on Saturday, outlined the steps taken by the Centre and the Assam government for youth welfare, he was singing a different tune in the campaign for the Assembly elections. With only four days to go for the polling, this is an acknowledgement that the high-decibel pitch around the issue of infiltration and its traditional poll issues is not working and there could be an undercurrent against the NDA, at least not among the youth.

Hazarika wanted to convince the youth constituency that the BJP government in the state was not just about rhetoric, but wanted to attend to the livelihood issues as well. He said that the new government under the BJP would surpass the 2021 electoral promise of generating one lakh government jobs to a target of exceeding two lakh jobs in the next five years. "Over one lakh youth have received financial assistance exceeding ₹1,000 crore, with a roadmap to support 10 lakh youth with assistance up to ₹5 lakh each in the coming five years," the BJP said in a statement quoting the minister.

The minister tried to tap the discontent of the urban youth by talking support to the start-up culture in the state. He noted that the present government had helped 615 start-ups since 2021, while the MSME sector witnessed 12.75 lakh units generating employment for over 82 lakh people, marking an unprecedented expansion of grassroots entrepreneurship.

The youth outreach is a decisive shift from the BJP's agenda in the last two years, when it championed the cause of jati (community), maati (land), and bheti (foundation) and managed to polarise voters to an extent through eviction drives, targeting particularly the Bengali-speaking Muslims, who are addressed by the pejorative term "Miya". Sources say that over 1.5 lakh bighas of land has been cleared of encroachment in the past five years, underlining the importance it attached to the eviction narrative.

Till recently, the BJP was going full steam with the same narrative, as Union Home Minister Amit Shah, as recently as on Friday, stated in Assam that the BJP government in its next term would drive out infiltrators, who have been identified in the past 10 years.

Observers, however, point out how the narrative game around infiltration may have peaked and not adding much to the BJP's support base. Arguably, a majority of non-Muslim voters do not see eviction drives as negative campaigns, there has been noticeable anger and frustration among sections of people, particularly youth, over the alleged delay in ensuring justice for the larger-than-life music icon Zubeen Garg.

This section is unhappy also because the state government took six months to start the work for the development of the singer's final resting place in Hatimura on the outskirts of Guwahati. Proceedings in a fast-track court for the trial in the high-profile case started only recently. What makes matters worse for the BJP is that Garg was a known critic of the party.

The "Justice for Zubeen Garg" campaign grew louder after Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma told the Assembly last year that the singer was murdered, and did not die of drowning. While seven persons arrested in connection with his death continued to be in judicial custody, there is a feeling among the youth that they will walk out of the jail sooner than later, especially in the light of the Singapore State Coroner's ruling that Garg had "accidentally" drowned, ruling out the murder theory.

Many social media users, particularly among the youth, criticised Sarma for levelling serious charges against the family of London-educated and Guwahati Central Assam Jatiya Parishad's "Gen Z" candidate Kunki Chowdhury.

Sparks fly as April 9 polls draw near, Rahul and Himanta trade charges

He moves with his chest puffed up. But the moment we form the government here, not a single word will come out of his mouth

Rahul Gandhi, Senior Cong leader

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

POLITICAL scene in Assam is heating up as parties step up their campaign for the April 9 Assembly elections. Two days ago, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi had attacked Himanta Biswa Sarma, calling him the "most corrupt" Chief Minister, and accusing him of opening a "land ATM" in Assam. "He moves with his chest puffed up. But the moment we form the government here, not a single word will come out of his mouth and he will come with folded hands. I know these people. They will not be forgiven," Gandhi had said at a rally in Karbi Anglong.

Sarma hit back at the Congress leader. "Those who say they will arrest Himanta Biswa Sarma are living in their dreams. Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi will have to be reborn for that. Only after seven lifetimes will they be able to bend Himanta Biswa Sarma's hair," the CM told media persons on Friday. He alleged that the Congress brought AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi to harm Assam's social atmosphere and "weaponise Miya people."

The slugfest continued on Saturday, with Congress leader Pawan Khera posting on X, "Since @himantabiswa believes he is above the law, he should remember a natural law: the higher you stand, the harder you fall. From CM's residence to Tihar - that will only be the beginning."

Another war of words erupted on Thursday after Sarma criticised Assam Jatiya Parishad (AJP) president Lurinjyoti Gogoi over the candidature of Kunki Chowdhury (27) who is contesting from the Guwahati Central seat. Lurinjyoti also slammed Sarma, stating that the CM was troubled, as the AJP fielded a highly educated indigenous woman.

Sarma gives a strong response

Sarma hit back at Gandhi. "Those who say they will arrest Himanta Biswa Sarma are living in their dreams. Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi will have to be reborn for that".

4 cops suspended over clashes during Shah's Bhabanipur visit

SUBHENDU MAITI @ Kolkata

THE Election Commission on Saturday directed the suspension of four Kolkata Police officials, including a deputy commissioner, and initiation of disciplinary proceedings against them for failing to maintain law and order during BJP leader Suvendu Adhikari's nomination filing in the Bhabanipur seat.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah had accompanied Adhikari for the filing of the nomination papers on April 2 in the seat, where Adhikari is pitted against incumbent CM Mamata Banerjee.

In a communique to the West Bengal chief secretary, the EC said the direction is based on a recommendation from state Chief Electoral Officer Manoj Kumar Agarwal. The missive directed action against Kolkata Police's Deputy Commissioner (DC-II), South Division, Siddhartha Dutta, officer-in-charge of Alipore police station Priyankar Chakraborty, additional OC Chandi Charan Banerjee, and sergeant Saurabh Chatterjee. The EC sought compliance report by by 11 am on April 5.

Kolkata Police Commissioner Ajay Nand on Friday issued show-cause notices two DCs – Dutta and Manas Roy (Reserve Force)—for alleged dereliction of duty when Shah accompanied Adhikari. During Shah's visit to Kalighat, a large number of people allegedly belonging to TMC gathered on the sidelines, waving black flags and shouting "go back". Near the Survey Building in Alipore where the BJP was holding a public meeting, TMC supporters allegedly barged in without intimation. Dutta and Roy were in-charge of the two venues. Police also have registered three FIRs in connection with Thursday's disturbances.

Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, expressing his displeasure over the incident, held a virtual conference with Agarwal, DGP and Kolkata CP. After being pulled up by CEC, Nand issued show-cause notices to Dutta and Roy.

Godman used to park 'dirty' money via hawala channel

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

SELF-styled 'godman' Ashok Kharat, who was arrested in 12 cases of sexual exploitation, was allegedly running a hawala racket for money laundering from Dubai to Australia through his temple trust. He was parking ill-gotten money of politicians, bureaucrats, and businessmen, said sources aware of the SIT probe against the fraudster.

The call detail records (CDRs) revealed that Kharat was in touch with Maharashtra politicians, including deputy CM Eknath Shinde, BJP ministers Chandrakant Patil and Ashish Shelar, NCP state president Sunil Tatkare, Shiv Sena leader Deepak Kesarkar, and former state women's commission chairperson Rupali Chakankar, among others. These leaders neither denied nor confirmed the revelations.

CDRs also revealed that Kharat was making phone calls abroad, including Dubai, Australia, Qatar, the Virgin Islands, and Chrisman Island, which are known as safe havens to park ill-gotten money. "SIT probe revealed that Kharat and his family members had more than 100 bank accounts with multiple PAN and Aadhar cards," said a source aware of the ongoing probe.

NCP (SP) MLA Rohit Pawar alleged that Kharat, through his temple trust, was running a money laundering racket with transactions of over ₹1000 crore. "Kharat not only exploited women sexually through his black magic, but also he had a nexus with politicians, bureaucrats, and businessmen whose money he shifted from unsafe zone to safe zone," he said. "The ED should probe this international money laundering racket where big fish are involved. This racket is a threat to the national security," Pawar added.

Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut claimed that the way classified information like CDR of top leaders of the ruling coalition came out through a social activist shows these leaders are on the target of CM Devendra Fadnavis. "Anjali Damania is not the chief of the RAW, she is a social activist. If she is getting this classified information, then it's tough time for these leaders... This is also an internal war, and information linked to Kharat has been used to settle political scores," Raut said.

Shiv Sena leader Prakash Mahajan questioned the intention of Damani for targeting Shinde.

Self-styled 'godman' Ashok Kharat was arrested in 12 cases of sexual exploitation

Owaisi jumps into Gujarat local body poll fray

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA @ Ahmedabad

First Cong candidates' list likely to be out today

The first official list of the Congress is expected to come out on Sunday. Gujarat Congress president Amit Chavda made it clear that the party is tightening its scrutiny process this time. "All preparations for the local body elections are complete. A detailed review has been conducted at every level," he said.

GUJARAT'S local body poll scene is heating up as parties shift from strategy to candidate selection. What began as internal "sensitisation" within parties has now turned into a scramble to lock candidates for the April 26 elections, and every major player, from the BJP to the Congress to the AAP, is moving fast.

AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi's arrival in Ahmedabad charged up the atmosphere.

Sources indicate that the Congress has zeroed in on 20 candidates for the Rajkot Municipal Corporation even as discussions are ongoing for panels of nominees across nine corporations. The presence of newly appointed AICC co-incharges in Ahmedabad's Rajiv Gandhi Bhavan (Congress headquarters) has injected urgency into the decision-making process.

The first official list of the Congress is expected to come out on Sunday. Gujarat Congress president Amit Chavda made it clear that the party is tightening its scrutiny process this time. "All preparations for the local body elections are complete. A detailed review has been conducted at every level. We have discussed not giving tickets to people with criminal backgrounds. Every claimant has been heard from districts to talukas and panels have been prepared after thorough local consultations," Chavda said. "The first list will be announced on Sunday. Deliberations will take place till April 7 across all districts, after which the final seal will be placed on candidates," he added.

Owaisi's public meeting at JP Chowk in Ahmedabad, in front of the BJP office, is being seen as strategic move. "We will field 529 candidates in Gujarat," he declared, making his expansion plan clear. But his attack on the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) debate has added a new layer to the election discourse. "When the Constitution was being framed, Babasaheb had said UCC would not be imposed. What is being presented here is not a true UCC; it's limited to Gujarat and resembles a copy-paste of the Uttarakhand bill. Many people don't even know what the report contains. This is being brought in the backdrop of local elections," Owaisi argued. "Certain communities and laws have been excluded, yet it is being applied broadly. That makes it anything but 'uniform'," he added.

Hunt for bride ends: 'Sudha' from Haryana for 'Simba' & 'Sultan' in UP

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

THE long-running tale of search for a suitable "bride" for Etawah Safari Park's nine-and-a-half-year-old Asiatic lions Simba and Sultan has ended with lioness Sudha – presently based at Rohtak Zoo in Haryana – is about to be brought to Etawah to be the mate of the royal bachelors.

The search for a suitable mating partner for both the Asiatic lions has been nearly one and a half years. Now the Etawah Lion Safari authorities have initiated efforts afresh to bring Sudha from Rohtak Zoo in Haryana.

According to Safari Director Dr Anil Kumar Patel, Simba and Sultan were born in October 2016 to lions Manan and Jessica. Over the years, the duo has grown into the main attractions of the safari, drawing visitors with their majestic presence. Now fully grown, the focus shifted from fame to family, with plans to expand their lineage.

As per the authorities concerned, the lionesses already present in the safari are siblings of Simba and Sultan. This makes breeding within the park impossible, forcing authorities to look beyond their territory. Bringing in a new lioness has now become essential to ensure the next generation of Asiatic lions at the safari.

The spotlight is now on Sudha, a lioness from Rohtak Zoo, with talks progressing, and if all goes as planned, she could soon arrive in Etawah. In exchange, a male lion named Vishwa, born at the safari on World Lion Day in 2022, will be sent to Rohtak.

The sources said that Sudha was no stranger to motherhood, having delivered cubs twice earlier. This has raised optimism among officials that she would be able to successfully breed in Etawah as well. However, before finalising the move, her health would be thoroughly checked, with samples to be tested at IVRI Bareilly and NCBS Bengaluru.

The transfer process would only be completed after approval from the Central Zoo Authority in New Delhi. Meanwhile, the safari management is also in touch with other zoos, including Sakkarbaug Zoo in Gujarat and Rajgir Zoo in Bihar, to explore more options.

6 school kids among nine dead after vehicle plunges into well near Nashik

SUDHIR SURYWANSHI @ Mumbai

ATLEAST nine people, including six children were killed after their vehicle plunged into a well at Dindori in Nashik district of Maharashtra. The incident took place on Friday night at Shivaji Nagar area, Dindori, about 25 km away from Mumbai.

The victims were returning home after a class social gathering at a banquet hall when the accident occurred.

According to preliminary reports, the driver of the vehicle lost control shortly after leaving the venue, and the car veered off the road and plunged into an open well located alongside the route, trapping all passengers inside.

A police rescue team rushed to the spot and deployed two hydra cranes and swimmers. The retrieved bodies were immediately shifted to the government hospital in Dindori.

State Disaster Management Minister Girish Mahajan visited the accident spot and said that the administration has been directed to close the well, and that the government will provide assistance of ₹5 lakh to the kin of the deceased. The Nashik collector has been asked to probe the incident and submit an inquiry report, he said.

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis termed the accident "extremely unfortunate". Preliminary reports indicated that the well had a low boundary wall and was in the middle of a busy area, he said.

CHANDIGARH DIARY

HARPREET BAJWA
Our correspondent in Chandigarh
hsbajwa73@gmail.com

Mann says visits to CM's house helped him

Talking about his manifestation secret, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann shared a glimpse into his political journey. He said that years before he became the CM, he used to circle the official residence of the then CM whenever in Chandigarh. While outlining new initiatives in state's education sector, Mann said self-belief and 'firm resolve' were central to personal and professional success. He said sometimes he would also talk to the then CM's security personnel. "I would tell them to keep the house neat and clean... I will soon come be on the CM's chair. It ultimately came true. Self-confidence is crucial, but it should not be arrogance," he said.

PC's Golden Temple visit goes viral on social media

Actress Priyanka Chopra dressed in a pink suit visited the Golden Temple in Amritsar recently. She listened to the Gurbani after paying respects at the sanctum sanctorum. Later, she also cleaned utensils (sewa) at Sri Guru Ramdas Jee Langar Hall. A video that has since gone viral on social media shows the actor arriving in the city and making her way from her car towards the shrine, accompanied by security personnel. In the clip, she is greeting people with folded hands and also pauses to pose with a fan who approaches her for a photograph. A few days ago she was spotted attending the Bvlgari Eclettica high-end collection launch in Milan.

Ex-CM hosts Adani & his wife Preeti for dinner

Former Punjab chief minister and senior BJP leader Capt Amarinder Singh hosted industrialist Gautam Adani and his wife Preeti for a private dinner at his Siswan farmhouse near Chandigarh this week. He also shared a photograph of the meeting on his Facebook account and wrote, 'It was a pleasure to have Gautam and Preeti Adani for dinner this evening.' What he is doing for the country amazes me, and I wish him a great future. India needs people like him." Reportedly Adani had called Singh as the couple was visiting Himachal and they decided to meet for dinner. The discussions touched upon the political situation in Punjab and national issues.

IN THE COURT OF THE 57th ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE (MAYO HALL UNIT), AT BENGALURU (CCH-58)

P & SC No. 25009/2026

PETITIONERS: 1. Smt. R. Kameswari, W/o Late. RNV Surya Narayana, aged about 48 years. **2. Smt. RVL Swetha** D/o Late RNV Surya Narayana, aged about 22 years, **3. Smt. R.S Sruthi,** D/o Late RNV Surya Narayana, aged about 18 years, All are Residing at 2-6-103, Road 2, 1st Floor, Prashanthi Nagar, Uppal Kalan, Opposite to Apollo Pharmacy, Uppal Post, Medchal -Malkajgiri District, Telangana State - 500039. **-V/s-**

RESPONDENTS: -Nil-

PUBLIC NOTICE

Where the Petitioners above named have made to this Court under Section 372 of Indian Succession Act for the Grant of Succession Certificate in favor of the petitioners in respect of the Schedule Mentioned Below. The Below mentioned Schedule belongs to Late RNV Suryanarayana who died on 21.10.2021 and after his demise the Petitioners are entitled to succeed to the Schedule.

Interested parties are hereby called upon to appear in this court in Person or by pleader duly instructed on **02/06/2026** before the 57th Additional City Civil & Sessions Judge (Mayo Hall Unit), at Bengaluru (CCH-58) at **11:00 A.M** inform to take notice that, in case of default petition will be heard and determined in your absence.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the Flat bearing No.407 in Third Floor, Block-I in 'SMR'S VINAY ESTATE measuring 930 Sq. feet (Net + Common) of SBA, 265 Sq. feet of Undivided share in all total land extent 47100 Square Feet with one Car Parking Space in Stilt floor Property Bearing Site in having Khatha No.273 (H L Katha No 85/1) Property No.118 situated at Horamavu Village, KR Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk and Bounded on: **East by:** Neighbor's Property, **West by:** Neighbor's Property, **North by:** Neighbor's Property, **South by:** Outer Ring Road

Give under my hand & seal of the, court on this 01/04/2026

By Order of the Court, Deputy Registrar, City Civil Court (Mayo Hall Unit), Bengaluru

Kunal S. Reddy, Advocate
No. 19/1, 2nd Floor, S-6,K.C.D Complex, C.S.I. Compound,3rd Cross, Mission Road, Bangalore -560 027.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the General public that my client **Sri. Nachiappan. V** Son of Sri. Vairavan.R.M, aged about 36 years, R/at, No-6, 5th Main, Nagarabhavi Road, SVG Nagar, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru- 560 072 is the owner of the below mentioned schedule property bearing Site No-37, BBMP Katha No-241, Property No-16/37 formed in Sy.No-16, 2nd Stage, measuring East to West 25 feet, North to South 20 feet totally measuring 500 Sq,fts, including RCC roofed house, situated at Valagerahalli Village, Gandhi Nagar, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, now presently comes under BBMP ward No-159, acquired under registered sale deed dated 22/07/2022 registered as vide document No-KEN-1-04741/2022-23 in office of the Sub-registrar Kengeri from his vendor Sri.S.Suryanarayana S/o Srinivasaiah. When my client was shifting the house the above said sale deed on 01/03/2026 near Kengeri satellite town, he lost the above said original sale deed pertaining to the below said schedule property. And in this behalf my client has also lodged police complaint on 02/04/2026 in lost Report No-2136600/2026 at Kengeri Police station, Bengaluru City trough on line to that effect, he has not handed over the document to anybody nor transacted with respect of the schedule property with anybody. Hence the public are hereby informed that if anybody finds the above said original Sale deed kindly handover the same either to him or to my address, for which suitable rewarded.

SCHEDULE

Property bearing Site No-37,BBMP Katha No-241, Property No- 16/37 formed in Sy.No-16, 2nd Stage, measuring East to West 25 feet, North to South 20 feet totally measuring 500 Sq,fts, including RCC roofed house, situated at Valagerahalli Village, Gandhi Nagar, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, now presently comes under BBMP ward No-159, and having following boundaries:- **East by:** Site No-29, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Site No.38, **South by:** Site No-36.

YOGESH. K.M, Advocate
KMY Associates
No. 197, 1st Main, 7th Cross, K.S. Town, Bengaluru-560 060. Mob No-98445 55578. Date: 04/04/2026.

BEFORE THE HON'BLE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL II AT BANGALORE, BSNL BUILDING 4TH FLOOR, RAJABHAVANA ROAD, BANGALORE

O.A. No. 1150/2022

Between:
ICICI Bank Limited ...Applicant
And:
M/s. Srinivasa Transport and Others ...Defendants

SUMMONS ISSUED TO DEFENDENTUNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES OF 1993 BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

TO,
1. M/s. Sri Srinivasa Transport
Represented by proprietor Mr. K. Ravikumar Reddy.
1st Floor, Near HP Petrol Pump, No. 11 & 12, Thirumalashetty Halli Cross, Thanahalli Post, Anugondanahalli, Hosakote Taluk, Bengaluru-560067.
And also available at:
No. 105, Jalguru Layout, Near Samedanahalli, Bengaluru- 560067.
2. Mr. K. Ravikumar Reddy,
S/o. Reddy, Aged about 43 years,
1st Floor, Near HP Petrol Pump, No. 11 & 12, Thirumalashetty Halli Cross, Thanahalli Post, Anugondanahalli, Hosakote Taluk, Bengaluru-560067.
And also available at:
No. 105, Jalguru Layout, Near Samedanahalli, Bengaluru-560067.
3. Mrs. Srivani Kalliki,
W/o. Mr. K. Ravikumar Reddy,
Aged about 43 years,
1st floor, Near HP Petrol Pump, No. 11 & 12, Thirumalashetty Halli Cross, Thanahalli Post, Anugondanahalli, Hosakote Taluk, Bengaluru-560067.
And also available at:
No. 105, Jalguru Layout, Near Samedanahalli, Bengaluru-560067. ...Defendants

WHEREAS: The applicant has instituted an application in the section 19 of recovery of debts Due to Banks and Financial Institution act 1993 against the above defendant for recovery of rupees Rs. 2,26,93,477/- (Rupees Two Crore Twenty Six Lakh Ninety Three Thousand Four Hundred and Seventy Seven Only) amount together with current and future interest, cost and other reliefs.

The above mentioned defendant is required to appear therefore here by direct to appear before the tribunal in person is through on duly instructed in support of their defence to show cause on 16-06-2026 at 10:30 am as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in cause default the application will be heard and determine in your absence.

Given under my hand & the seal of the tribunal on this 03rd day of January, 2026

By order of the Tribunal
The Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal,
Bangalore

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PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that **SRI. MAHENDRA REDDY &** his wife **SMT.LEELAVATHI** are the owners of immovable property mentioned in the schedule hereunder and they have lost the original Sale Deed dt: 4.3.2004 Doc No.25018/03-04, Book-I, executed by Smt.Padmavathi alias Padmavathamma in favour of Sri. Ramachandraiah.P.M and Sale Deed dt: 21/2/2005 Doc No.29574/04-05, Book-1, executed by Sri.Ramachandraiah.P.M in favour of Sri.V.Srinivasa Reddy both registered in SRO, Bangalore South Taluk and Discharge Deed dt:6/8/2018 Doc no.2670 /18-19 executed by National Co-op Bank in favour of Sri.Mahendra Reddy & Smt.Leelavathi registered in SRO Varthur Bangalore. In case anybody having any claims or in possession of the said document, shall inform the under singed and handover the same within SEVEN DAYS from the date of publication of this notice.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing **Site No.116/5A**, Old Mahadevapura CMC Khatha No.116/5A, now new BBMP form-B Sl.no.202 situated adjacent road of SGR College, Muunekolala Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, measuring East to west 55 Feet and North to South 56 Feet, totally 3080 sq.ft and bounded on: East by : Property belonging to Papaiah Reddy, West by : Passage and Property belonging to Venkatamma, North By : Property belonging to Jayarama Reddy, South by : Property belonging to A.Narayana Reddy.

N. JAGADEESH KUMAR, Advocate
No.30/1, 2nd Floor, 7th Cross, Near NR Colony-Bus Stand, Opp. Hotel Dwaraka, Bangalore-19.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform to the public at large, that our client's company **M/s. SHREE ISHTA HARDWARE,** having office at No. 26/A, Ground, First, Second floor, 15th Cross, 100 Feet Road, Sarakki 4th Phase Extension, J.P. Nagar 4th Phase, Bangalore-560078, represented by its Managing Partner MR. SHRAWAN LAL SUTHAR, S/o Jethram Suthar, R/at No. 1402, Lidya West SNN Raj Lake View Appartment, 29th Main Road, BTM Layout, Bangalore South, Bangalore-560076, is intending to purchase the below mentioned schedule property bearing No. 50, formed by the K.S.R.T.C, Central Office Employee's Urban House Building Cooperative Society Ltd., Bangalore in converted Sy. No. 93, Nayanappa Setty Palya (Sarakki III Phase) and presently having property bearing No. 50, 8th main road, KSRTC layout, J.P. Nagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore-560078, from SRI. K. RAMAKRISHNA, aged about 81 Years, S/o. Late S. Krishnamurthy, Residing at No. 2117, Branch Hill Street, Tampa, Florida- 33612, United States of America, also available at No. 50, 8th Main, K.S.R.T.C Layout, J.P. Nagar 2nd phase, Bangalore-560078.

If any person/s having any right/s, title, claims or interest in the said property by way of sale, inheritance, possession, succession, mortgage, lien, gift or otherwise in respect of the same, shall intimate the objections in writing to the undersigned with supporting documents thereof within 7 DAYS from the date of publication of this notice or else any such claims by any one shall not be considered and shall be deemed to have been waived and / or abandoned. And our client's company shall proceed to conclude the negotiations and no claims shall be entertained thereafter.

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No. 50, formed by the K.S.R.T.C Central Office Employee's Urban House Building Cooperative Society Ltd., Bangalore in converted Sy. No. 93, Nayanappa Setty Palya (Sarakki III Phase) and presently having property bearing No. 50, 8th main road, KSRTC layout, J.P. Nagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore-560078. having EPID No.4671802338, BBMP Ward No.177, J.P.Nagar along with 18 sq of RCC roofed structure constructed on the site measuring East to West 18.30 mts. and North to South 10.98 mts. in all 200.93 sq. mts., and bounded as follows: East by : 60 Feet Road, West by: Site No. 48 & 52A, North by : Site No. 49, South by : Site No. 51.

E.R. GAJENDRA NAIDU & ASSOCIATES,
E.R. GAJENDRA NAIDU,
T.K. VISHWAJITH, M.N. SRIKANTH,
VIPUL V JAIN, TANUJ JAIN, Advocates
#15/1, (New No. 48), 3rd Floor 'LAKVIN', Kanakapura Main Road, Yediyur Circle, Opp. Vaibhava Hotel, Basavanagudi- 560004.
Mob: 9448054522, 9663299708
Email:gajendranaidu23@gmail.com

BEFORE THE HON'BLE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II (KARNATAKA)

FOURTH FLOOR, TELEPHONE HOUSE BUILDING, RAJ BHAVAN ROAD, BENGALURU - 560 001

O.A. No. 284 OF 2025

BETWEEN: M/s. HDFC Bank Ltd.
(Formerly HDFC Ltd.)
Having office at: H.D.F.C. House, No. 51, Kasturba Road, Bengaluru 560 001. **...APPLICANT**

AND

1. Mr. Rohit Chopra
S/o. Mr. Om Prakash Chopra
Aged about 46 years.
Residing at: No.846, 26th Main, 10th Cross, Sector - 1, H.S.R. Layout, Bengaluru South, Karnataka - 560102.
Working at:
Cisco Systems India Pvt Ltd.
Department: Technical Department
Employee ID: 156700
No.11, Divyasree Chambers, 'B' Wing, 'O' Shaugnessy Road, Landford Road, Bengaluru-560027
Property situated at:
Flat No. 109 (Consisting of Flat No.105 and Flat No.109, measuring 1062 and 1068 sq.ft. of built up area respectively and now merged together), on first floor, along with all areas appurtenant thereto in the building called "BSR Koorla Residency" situated at Sy.No.56/2, BBMP Katha NO.1661/56/2, Kogilu Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, Bengaluru - 560 064.
...Defendant No.1

2. M/s. B.S.R. Enterprises
A registered partnership firm, Having its registered office at: No.15, Curve Road, Tasker Town, Bengaluru - 560 051
...Defendant No.2

3. Mrs. Vaishnavi K.S.
w/o. Mr. Sukumar, Aged about 41 Years, Residing at : Plot No.109, 1st Floor, BSR Koorla Residency, Kogilu Village, Yalahanka Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, Bengaluru – 560 064
... Defendant No.3

NOTICE ISSUED UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES,1993

Whereas, the Applicant has instituted an Original Application under section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act 1993 against you for recovery of debts of Rs.2,36,23,976/- (Rupees Two Crore Thirty Six Lakh Twenty Three Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy Six Only) together with current and future interest and other relief's. The above Defendants are therefore, hereby directed to file the written statement with a copy thereof furnished to the applicant and to appear before the Hon'ble Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorized agents in support of their defence to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication or on **5th May 2026 at 10:30 a.m.,** as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of the Hon'ble Tribunal on this the day 30th March 2026.

By Order of the Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal II
Bengaluru

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, the undersigned advocate on behalf of my client **Smt. Venkatalakshmamma and others** have filed the above petition for the death certificate of **Smt. lakshmamma w/o late S.Puttanna was died on 13/02/2019** at Bettakote village, Channarayapattana hobli, Devanahalli taluk, Bangalore rural district. If any parties who have objections may dispute regarding the same can appear before the Add Civil Judge and JMFC at Devanahalli and date of hearing **on 26/05/2026 at 11:00 AM in C.Mis No.254/2026**

By Order of the Court, Sd/- Chief Ministerial Officer
Addl. Civil Judge & JMFC Court, Devanahalli
Sri Ananda Gowda P.V., Advocate

FOR SALE

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING

For Sale in Hennur. 2283 sq.ft, carpet area 6773 sq.ft , G+3 , Total 6 flats. Rent Generating. Parking , 24/7 water supply.

Contact - **9980845735**
7676888773

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our clients have negotiated to purchase the below mentioned property from its owner Sri B.V. Madhukar S/o M.S.Venkob Rao residing at # 27, 1st Main Road, RMV 2nd Stage, Aswathnagar, Bengaluru – 560 094.

Objections /claims if any to the proposed transaction of sale or in respect of Schedule Property may be lodged with the undersigned in writing along with documentary proof within Ten (10) days from hereof, failing which our clients shall finalise the transaction. Objections received beyond the said period shall not be entertained.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Residential Site No.83 E-katha PID NO. 6000051305 in the layout plan approved by the Bangalore Development Authority in Several numbers of Kodigehalli, Byataranyanapura, Kothihoshalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, in the layout known as Rajeev Gandhi Nagar, N.T.I.Layout, 2nd phase, Bangalore – 560 092, the said site carved out in parts of Sy No. 27/2, Kodigehalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Measuring East to West : 40 Ft, and North to South: 30 Ft, totally measuring – 1200 Sq. Ft, and bounded on East by : Road; West by : Site No.95 and 96; North by : Site No.82; and South by : Site No.84.

SREEPADA .H.R, Advocate
No.20, Chaitra, 4th Floor, 6th Cross, 8th Main, Vasanthanagar, Bengaluru- 560 001.
Mob: 98440 76629. Date: 04.04.2026

Government of Karnataka

Wildlife Sub Division, Shivamogga

No.: A1/BUD/034 MAC/E-Tender/CR-1/25-26 D: 01.04.2026

e-Tender Notice (Through e-Procurement Portal)

Tender is invited through e-procurement portal as per Karnataka transparency in Public Procurement Act 2000 from experienced, eligible contractors for providing Human Resource on outsource basis of services of Poaching Protection Camp Guards, Data Entry Operator, Driver, Supervisor (Caretaker), Watcher, Peon, Meti, Elephant Mahout, Veterinary Assistant required in the zones of Shivamogga Wildlife Division for the year 2026-27 from 01.04.2026 to 31.03.2027. The last date for submission of tender for the said works is fixed on 02.05.2026 up to 4.00 PM. For further information this office can be contacted during office hours. Details regarding the re-tender can be obtained through official website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Assistant Conservative of Forests, Wildlife Sub Division, Shivamogga

DIPR/smg/ksmca/26-27/24/04/30

IN THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - II, AT BENGALURU, Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Financial Services Debt Recovery Tribunal-I Karnataka (Bengaluru), 4th Floor, Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bengaluru, Pin code-560001.

O.A. No. 63/2020

Between
Indian Overseas Bank, **...Applicant**
And
1) M/s Manjunatha Enterprises, Represented by its proprietor, Sri. R. Moorthy, S/o. Rajamanikyam, C/o. Trading at No. 44, Subramanyapura Main Road, Kadirenahalli, Banashankari 2nd stage, Bengaluru-70. **Also At:** No. 41, Kadirenahalli, New Colony, Banashankari 2nd stage, Bengaluru-70. **... Defendants**

NOTICE ISSUED UNDER RULE 23 (VII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES 1993.

Whereas, the applicant has instituted an application under section 19 of the recovery of debits due of Banks and financial institutions act 1993 against you for recovery of a sum of Rs.20,48,895.00 (Rupees Twenty Lakhs Forty Eight Thousand Eight hundred and Ninety Five Only) together with current and future interest and other reliefs the above Defendant is there fore, hereby directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorized agents in support of their defense to show cause with in 30 days from the date of publication or on 16-04-26 at 10:30 am as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted. Take notice that in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on this 24th day Feb 2026.

Sd/- Recovery Officer,
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL
BANGALORE

Government of Karnataka

Ayanur Sub Forest Division, Shivamogga

No.: ACF/Tender/CR-01/2025-26 Date: 01.04.2026

e-Tender Notice
(Through e-Procurement Portal)

As per the expectation of grant for the year 2026-27 under various account heads and including change of places of work mentioned in the e-Procurement Portal, regarding the works of "Forestation/ Tree Plantation Formation, Forestry Plantation Management and Maintenance of Various Size Saplings" in relation to the works carried out in various forest zones of Shivamogga Regional Forest Division limits, as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act, 2000, for the year 2025-26, it is necessary to recruit a person/firm/contractor who is registered as a Forest Contractor in the Forest Department and has experience in growing and management of forestry plantation, various size saplings in the Forest Department, plantation preparatory work and tendered type works, and is required to grow plantation areas and saplings in the zone where the work is to be carried out. E-tenders are invited from interested forest contractors having facilities through the e-procurement portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in . The last date for submission of tenders for the said works is 15.04.2026 up to 4.00 PM. For more information, this office may be contacted during office hours, and details about the tender can be found on the official website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Assistant Conservator of Forests Ayanuru Sub-Forest Division, Shivamogga

DIPR/smg/ksmca/26-27/34/04/36

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public is hereby notified that, my client **Sri.S.Adinarayana Reddy** S/o Manjunatha Reddy resident of No. 2-35 Main Road, Pemmanakuntapalli village, Nallamada Mandal, Sathyasai (erstwhile Ananthapur) Dist., A.P.-515501, at present R/at No.1204, Ramakrishna Hegde Nagar, Thanisandra, Bengaluru, is the absolute owner in lawful possession and enjoyment of the items of property, agricultural land in different survey numbers more fully described in the schedule hereunder. My client states that himself, his father Sri.S.Manjunatha Reddy and his younger brother Sri.S.Ramana Reddy jointly succeeded to the schedule properties. Thereafter, under a Deed of Release dated **07-07-2015** duly registered, the said Sri.S.Manjunatha Reddy and Sri.S.Ramana Reddy released their estate, right, title, interest, claim, share and demand etc., in respect of the schedule properties in favour of my client, the Releasee therein absolutely and forever. Since then my client has been in exclusive possession and enjoyment of the schedule properties by exercising the right of absolute ownership over the same.

My client has come to know that in collusion with the aforesaid Releasors and one Mr.Manthena Setharamaraju S/o Manthena Ramam, No.1301, E-Tower, Godrej Avenues, Singanayakanahalli, Yelahanka, Bengaluru-560 064, Mr.Kattubadi Ramachandra Reddy S/o Kattubadi Sanjeeva Reddy No.6-2-929, Ram Nagar, Ananthapur, A.P-515001, Mr.Nagireddy Ranga Reddy S/o N.Venkata Reddy No.7-85, Chandrayanioalli, Reddipalle, Ananthapur, A.P-515501 and Mr.V.Sheshu S/o late Venkatachalapathi, No.16, Main Road, Near Gangamma Temple, Byraganahalli, Doddavalagamadi, Kolar Dist-563120 have created fraudulent documents styled as Agreement of Sale dated 15-04-1998 alleged to have been executed by late Venkata Narasamma and S.Manjunatha Reddy in favour of T.Giriyappa S/o late Thimme Gowda and another Agreement of Sale dated 11-12-2025 purported to have been entered into between Sri.S.Manjunatha Reddy and Sri.S.Ramana Reddy as Vendors and Mr.Manthena Setharamaraju, Mr.Kattubadi Ramachandra Reddy, Mr.Nagireddy Ranga Reddy and Mr.V.Sheshu as confirming parties with one Mr.Dayananda.G S/o late T.Giriyappa, No.39, 3rd Main Road, Margosa Road, Malleswaram, Bengaluru-560 003 agreeing to sell most of the items of schedule properties illegally and fraudulently by suppressing the ownership and lawful possession of my client in respect of the said items of property. My client has already lodged a police complaint and is contemplating to take proper legal action/steps to protect his right, title, interest and possession in respect of the said items of property.

The General public and more particularly the alleged Agreement holder/s is/ are hereby cautioned and notified that the aforesaid persons have neither acquired any manner of subsisting right, title or interest nor were they in possession of the said properties or any portion of the same at any point of time and that the alleged documents executed or created by them are void and neither legal nor binding on my client in any manner.

For verifications if any in respect of the schedule properties, the Advocate at the address given below may be contacted with prior appointment.

SCHEDULE-I All that piece and parcels of agricultural land situate at Binnamangala village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural Dist., in the following Survey Numbers: Sy.Nos.1 to 9, 10-P1 & 10-P2 to 11 to 38, 39/1, 39/2 & 39/3, 40 to 55, 55/B-7, 56 to 64 totally measuring to an extent of 390 acres 14 guntas.

SCHEDULE-II All that piece and parcels of agricultural land situate at Kommasandra village, Chennarayapatna Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural Dist., in the following Survey Numbers: Sy.Nos.1, 2/1, 2/2, 2/3, 3/1, 3/2, 3/3, 3/4, 4, 5,6/1, 7, 8/1, 8/2, 9, 10/1, 10/2, 10/3, 11, 12/1, 12/2, 13, 14, 15, 16/1, 16/2, 17 to 23, 24/1, 24/2, 25/1, 25/2, 26, 27, 28/1, 29/1, 29/2, 30/1, 30/2, 30/3, 30/4, 31/1, 31/2, 31/3, 32 to 58 totally measuring to an extent of 174 acres.

Sd/- SADASIVAREDDY, Advocate,
No.55, 'SAISADANA', 13th 'A' Cross, Sarakki Gate, Kanakapura Main Road, 1st Phase, J.P.Nagar, Bengaluru-78.
Cell Phone: 9449816180

MANDYA DIST. CO-OPERATIVE MILK PRODUCER'S SOCIETIES UNION LTD.,

Tele: 08232 – 274571, E-Mail:manmulpurchase@gmail.com

IFT NO: MMU/PUR/E-Procu./Tender - 01/2026-27 Date: 02.04.2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through E-procurement portal only)

Mandya Milk Union Ltd. invites e-Tenders for **1.** Supply, installation, testing and commissioning Of 2000 LPH ghee clarifier unit To Mandy-02 No. **2.** Supply, installation, testing & commissioning of double head mechanically operated FFS pouch filling machine for ghee under buy back basis - 1 No. **3.** Supply of common salt on ARC basis -365 MT. The bidders can download the documents from **04.04.2026** and Last date of submission of tender **04.05.2026 at 15.00 hrs**, Date of opening of Technical tender **05.05.2026** after **15.30 hrs** & Commercial Bid opening will be intimated. Interested bidders may download bidding documents from the e-procurement portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and also contact helpline No: **080-25501227/25501216, e-mail:hphelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com.**

Note: For more information contact Manager (Purchase) **Mob: 9513888247**

Sd/-
MANAGING DIRECTOR

Karnataka State Coir Development Corporation Ltd.

(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
SF-4 & SF-5, Sterling Towers (Garment Complex),
KSSIDC Industrial Estate, Rajajinagar, Banglaore-560010
Ph. 080-23105866 / 23105865

No.KSCDC/M(MKTG)/TN/C&F/2026-27 Date:02.04.2026

SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal)

Karnataka State Coir Development Corporation Limited, Bengaluru is inviting tender **for Appointment of Carrying & Forwarding Agent cum Stockist for the territory of Madhya Pradesh, Goa, Maharashtra, Jammu & Kashmir for marketing of coir and coir products** through e-procurement portal.

a. Eligibility Criteria: Any individual, Institutions, firm, company and Startups with sound financial background are eligible.

b. Date of Events:
- Date of Publishing Tender: **05.04.2026**
- Last Date to seek clarifications: **21.04.2026 before 1.00 P.M.**
- Last Date for submission of Tender Documents: **21.04.2026 on or before 4.00 P.M.**
- Opening of Tender Documents: **22.04.2026 at 4.30 P.M.**

Interested tenderers / parties may visit / logon to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or contact this office for detailed information. Contact person Mr. H.K.Rajashekhar, Manager-Marketing, Mob:9449207986.

Sd/- CHIEF MANAGER

BENGALURU CENTRAL CITY CORPORATION

Office of the Executive Engineer, Gandhinagara Division, 2nd Floor, BBMP Complex, Dhanavantri Road, Bengaluru - 560009.

No: EE/GNR/TEND/KPPP/001/2026-27 Date: 04-04-2026

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) - (SHORT TERM)
(Two Cover System) (Through GOK KPP Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Gandhinagara Division, BCCC, Bengaluru invites Tenders on item rate basis for the Works mentioned below from the registered Contractors of BCCC or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES or any State Government Organizations.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Annual Maintenance of Storm Water Drains in Gandhinagara Constituency. **Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs): 222.03, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 3,34,000/-**
2	Annual Maintenance of Arterial and Sub Arterial Roads including Footpath in Gandhinagara Division. **Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs): 84.67, EMD Amount (in Rs.): 1,70,000/-**

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender documents can be downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. 2)** Last Date & Time for Receipt of Tenders: **18-04-2026 upto 16.00 Hours. 3)** Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid: **21-04-2026 at 12.30 Hours. 4)** Date of Opening of Financial Bid: **Will be intimated through KPPP.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Gandhinagar Division, BCCC.

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(BALLARI THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (Through e-Procurement Portal Only)

Tenders are invited for the following works through e- Procurement portal **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

BELLARY THERMAL POWER STATION

(1) KPCL/2025-26/PS/WORK_INDENT3924/CALL-4, Date: 27.03.2026, Radiography of weld joints of pressure parts during annual overhauling works and emergency tube failures of Boiler Unit#1, 2 & 3 at BTPS. Amount put to tender(Approx.): **Rs. 29.86 Lakhs (Exclusive of GST).** EMD: **Rs. 59,800/-.** Period of Contract: **365 days (Any time during the year 2026-27). (2)** KPCL/2025-26/PS/WORK_INDENT4055, Date: 27.03.2026, Loading, Unloading and Transportation of coal lumps/boulders including segregation of extraneous materials in coal handling plant BTPS. Total Tender Amount: **Rs. 83,78,000/-.** EMD: **Rs. 1,68,000/-.** Last date for submission of tenders: For Sl.No. (2) **13.04.2026 up to 17.00 HRs.** Further details can be had from the office of the **Executive Engineer (BM), M: 9480830316** for Sl.No. (1) & **Executive Engineer (CHP) Mechanical-1, M: 9448290756 for Sl.No. (2), BTPS, KPCL, Kudathini-583152, Ballari District** during office hours.

RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION

(1) No. KPCL/2025-26/PM/WORK-INDENT4091, Dtd: 28.03.2026. Repair and Reconditioning of variable displacement axial piston hydraulic pump for Stacker Reclaimer-2 of CHP2/RTPS. Approx. amount put to tender: **Rs. 6,63,608/-(Exclusive of GST).** EMD: **Rs. 16,600/-. (2)** No. KPCL/2025-26/PS/WORK_INDENT4054, Dtd: 27.03.2026. Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of ESP HVRTs for Unit-5 to 8. EMD: **Rs. 35,213/-(Exclusive of GST). (3)** No. KPCL/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT4069, Dtd: 25.03.2026. Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 11kV/6.6kV VCB of UAT 7A breaker and associated accessories with complete panel. EMD: **Rs. 54,775/-.** Last date & time for submission of tenders: for Sl.No. (1) **15.04.2026 up to 17.30 Hrs.,** for Sl.No. (2) **11.04.2026 up to 16.30 Hrs &** for Sl.No. (3) **15.04.2026 up to 16.00 Hrs**. Further details can be had from the office of the **Executive Engineer (CHP)M-2, M: 9448290758** for Sl.No. (1), **Executive Engineer (LT-2), M: 9449596531** for Sl.No. (2), & **Executive Engineer (HT-2), M: 9449596528, E-mail: eeht2rtps@gmail.com** for Sl.No. (3), **RTPS,** KPCL, Shaktinagar-584170, Raichur District.

DOCUMENT LOST

This is to inform the general public that my client **T.R. NAGARAJ** S/o T.S. Ramachar, age 66 years, R/at No. 115, 4th main, 5th Cross, 7th Block, 4th Phase, BSK 3rd Stage, Bangalore had purchased the site bearing No.486, dated 18-12-1992, formed by the HMT Employees co-operative house building society limited, Nagasandra, Nelakadhirenahalli Village, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, through registered sale deed which was registered before the SUB-REGISTRAR, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore entry in Book No.1, suputa 4864 and page No. 137-140 in the 92-93 documents No: 6605 registered on 24-12-1992. But on 07-03-2026 he took this sale deed to get xerox copy while going from his house which was situated at above said address this sale deed is lost or stolen by some body from my vehicle since he was searching this sale deed, despite his best efforts, the same could not be traced. In this regard on 16-03-2026, he had lodged online complaint at Bengaluru Police Unit, vide Lost Report No. 2111942/2026. If anybody finds the above said document or is in possession, please handover the same to the below said address with in 7 days from this date of publication.

THIMME GOWDA .M, Advocate
No. 165, 1st Cross, 1st Floor, "Sindhoor Complex", Kanakapura Main Road, J.P. Nagar, Bangalore-560 078. M: 94806 12221

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919

ABSTRACT TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Sharavathy Hydro-Electric Project)
(Through e-Portal only)

Bids are invited in two cover system for the procurement of following. The tender details can be downloaded from KPP Portal. **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in (1) No: KPCL/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT3964/CALL-2 Dated: 25.03.2026.** Annual Maintenance Contract of Smoke Detection & Fire Alarm Systems and Burglar Alarm system installed at Jog Central Stores for the period of one year, Jogfalls-577435, **EMD: Rs. 5,300/-**, Last Date for receipt of tenders: **06.04.2026 upto 4.30 p.m.**

For any other information contact: **EE(MSP)J, KPCL, Jogfalls 577 435, Dist: Shivamogga. Mobile-9449598847.**

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
Kalinadi Hydro Electric Project

(1) No: KPCL/2025-26/SE0344 Dated: 28.03.2026. Hiring one number of bolero or equivalent vehicle of model 2023 and above, 2500KMS monthly run 12hoursx7 days basis for a period of 2 years (extendable up to one more year based on performance of the agency and condition of vehicle) for EE O&M Kodasalli Division. Tender Amount in (Ex. GST): **16,29,600.00. EMD: Rs.41,000.00/-, (2)No:KPCL/2025-26/SE0343 Dated: 28.03.2026.** Hiring of three nos. of bolero or equivalent 6 plus 1 seater vehicles for 24hr.x7 days basis for emergency flood monitoring duties at kadra and kodasalli dams for 2026 monsoon for a period of four months. Tender Amount in (Ex. GST): **Rs.11,12,040.00. EMD: Rs.27,900.00/-.** Last Date for receipt of tenders: **13.04.2026 upto 5.00 p.m.**

For any other information contact: **Office of the EE (Gates) Kali, KPCL, Kadra, Tq: Karwar, Dist: North Kanara-581396. Mobile: 9141611350. E-mail: eegateskali@gmail.com. Website: https://kpcl.karnataka.gov.in**

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Govt of India undertaking)

Branch: Ulsoor
P B No 883, 18/10, Cambridge Road, Ulsoor HAL Stage II H.O, Bengaluru -560008.

POSSESSION NOTICE (section 13(4)] (For immovableProperty)

Whereas: The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Canara Bank, **Ulsoor Branch** under Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a **Demand Notice dated 19.01.2026** calling upon the borrower **1. Mrs. R Rukmani Devi** W/O Sampath Kumar And **2. Mr. S Naresh Kumar** S/O Sampath Kumar R **(Hereinafter Referred To As "The Borrowers")** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice, being **Rs.59,22,053.29 (Rupees Fifty Nine Lakhs Twenty two Thousand and Fifty three and paisa Twenty nine Only),** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under section 13 (4) of the said Act, read with Rule 8 & 9 of the said Rule on this **31st day of March** of the year **2026**.

The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Canara Bank for an amount of **Rs. 59,65,236.25 (Rupees Fifty Nine Lakhs Sixty Five Thousand two hundred and Thirty Six And Paisa Twenty Five only)** and applicable interest there on till full repayment of respective the dues. The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Section 13 (8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

SCHEDULE A PR OPERTY: All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Municipal Corporation No.12 (Old No.6) PID No.81-70-12, situated at Yellamma Koil F.No.2nd street, Ulsoor, Bangalore presently coming under administrative jurisdiction of BBMP W.No.81, Ulsoor range measuring East To West 34 feet and North to South 47 feet admeasuring 1598 sq.ft and boundry as follows: **East By:** Private Property, **West By:** Yellamma Koil F.No.2nd street, **NorthBy:** Private Property, **South By:** Private Property .

SCHEDULE B PR OPERTY: All that piece and parcel of the northern portion of immovable property bearing Municipal Corporation No.12/1 PID No. 81-70-12/1, situated at Yellamma Koil F.No.2nd street, Ulsoor, Bangalore presently coming under administrative jurisdiction of BBMP W.No.81, Ulsoor range measuring East To West 34 feet and North to South 23½ feet admeasuring 799 sq.ft and boundry as follows: **East By:** Private Property, **West By:** Yellamma Koil F.No.2nd street, **NorthBy:** Private Property, **South By:** Remaining portion of the A sche dule property.

DATE: 31.03.2026 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
PLACE: Ulsoor **Canara Bank**

ZILLA PANCHAYATH TUMKUR

O/o Executive Engineer, Panchayath Raj Engineering Division Tumkur.

No: EE/PRED/TmK/ TND No-01/2026-2/01 Dated: 02.04.2026

KPP-Procurement Tender Notice
One & Two Cover System

The Tender is inviting through KPP-procurement on behalf of government of Karnataka by the Executive Engineer, P.R.E.D. Tumkur Chief Minister's Infrastructure Development Scheme for the year 2025-26, Programme 5054 for the year 2025-26, Government Pre-University Colleges Classroom Repair Scheme for the year 2024-25, Construction of Toilet Blocks for Government Pre-University Colleges for the year 2024-25, Scheduled Caste Miscellaneous Development Scheme for the year 2018-19 (Capital L.S. 4225-01-796-0-01) for the Indent Number :
(Indent No: (Indent No:
1.RDPR/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT24930,
2.RDPR/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT24926,
3.RDPR/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT22856/CALL-2,
4.RDPR/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT25755,
5.RDPR/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT25756,
6.RDPR/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT25902,
7.RDPR/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT25901,
8.RDPR/2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT25932
9.RDPR/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT24189)
as per KTTP Act 2000 The Tender Documents can be obtained from the KPP-procurement Web Site and submitt the details on Dated 02.04.2026. to 17.04.2026. upto 5.00 pm. Further details can be obtained through website at http://www.KPPP.karnataka.gov.in or contact this office during office working hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division,
Tumkur

DIPR/TUM/07/KSMCA/2026-27

CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, KOPPAL.

No:CMC/KKRDB/2025-26/40 **Date : 31-03-2026**

Short Term Tender Notification

Koppal City under Commissioner CMC koppal state Governor behalf of Transparency public storage act 2000 and KW-1,3,4, rule, works Karnataka state government e-procurement portal in https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in PWD Registers Contractor to Tender invite. Tender form Rate and EMD cost Specified in e-procurement portal

KKRDB Grant: Name of Work: 1 DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT56919 **Estimate Cost (In lakh):** 90.00 **EMD Cost (in Rs):** 1130000.00 **Class of Eligibal Contractor:** Class-1 & Above

2 DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT56920 **Estimate Cost (In lakh):** 100.00 **EMD Cost (in Rs):** 1260000.00 **EMD Cost (in Rs):** Class-1 & Above

Conditions: 1 Period of tender document download in govt e-procurement on-line apply last date. **08-04-2026** evening 4.30 PM 2 Technical bid open date **10-04-2026** Morning 10:30 AM 3 Financial bid open date: **11-04-2026** Morning 10:30 AM or bid open date after published 4 Similar Nature of work done Submitted as Per KW-4 Releted Works 5 Tender Conditions and rules office hours technical dept or (https://www.koppalcity.mrc.gov.in) downlod the information in website 6 work complition period 3 months (Including Rainig Season) 7 Tender rejecteing autority CMC Office 8 For More information contact to state govt e-procurement portal website(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)

Sd/- Municipal Commissioner
CMC Koppal

DIPR/Koppal/05/KSMCA/2026-27

31st avalanche death reported in Austria after rescuers found a Slovak man killed.

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	21	1	SNY	Los Angeles	20	12	SNY
Colombo	28	24	SNY	Melbourne	26	15	LC
Dhaka	31	19	SNY	Moscow	4	2	SNY
Dubai	26	21	SNY	New York	7	2	SNY
Houston	31	19	TDS	Singapore	28	25	TDS
Istanbul	33	21	SNY	Toronto	1	-5	SNY
London	13	9	SNY	Washington	3	-2	SNY

Strikes near Bushehr N-plant raise fears of fallout across Gulf nations

Tehran announces fresh attacks, claiming a drone strike on an Israel-linked ship in Bahrain

Israel renews strikes on Lebanon's Tyre

BEIRUT: Israel renewed strikes on Lebanon's Tyre after evacuation warnings, hitting three buildings and damaging a hospital. Missiles destroyed residential blocks and struck a refugee camp and port. Despite mass departures, about 20,000 people remain. Attacks extended to Beirut and south Lebanon, with infrastructure hit and cross-border clashes escalating in the ongoing Israel-Hezbollah war.

US arrests, bars Soleimani relatives

WASHINGTON: Two relatives of slain Iranian general Qassem Soleimani were arrested in the US after their residency permits were revoked, the State Department said. The niece, Hamideh Soleimani Afshar, and her daughter are in ICE custody. Washington cited alleged support for Iran's leadership; both are barred from remaining in the country, while her husband has also been denied entry into the US.

Israel destroys UNIFIL cameras

BEIRUT: Israeli forces destroyed 17 surveillance cameras at the UN peacekeepers' headquarters in Naqura within 24 hours, a UN official said. The UNIFIL mission has faced repeated damage amid crossfire between Israel and Hezbollah. Recent incidents include blasts, casualties among peacekeepers, and growing concerns over their safety in southern Lebanon, with Indonesia condemning the attacks as unacceptable.

Visitors and media representatives walk through damaged interiors of Tehran's Shahid Beheshti University after strikes, part of attacks hitting over 30 universities nationwide | AFP

TEHRAN

US-Israeli strikes hit an area near Iran's Bushehr nuclear power plant on Saturday, prompting its foreign minister to warn that the effects of any fallout would be felt most keenly by the country's Gulf neighbours.

The strikes came as the search continued for a missing US airman whose fighter jet went down over Iran, and as Tehran announced fresh attacks in the region, with the Revolutionary Guards saying they carried out a drone strike on a commercial ship in Bahrain allegedly linked to Israel. The strike near the Bushehr nuclear plant killed a guard.

WAR WATCH

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi warned that continued attacks on the plant on Iran's southern coast could eventually lead to radioactive fallout that would "end life in GCC capitals, not Tehran".

Russia evacuates Bushehr

Russia started a planned evacuation of 198 workers from Iran's Bushehr atomic plant shortly after a US-Israeli projectile hit near the facility, Russian state media said on Saturday. This was a third evacuation from the facility in southern Iran on the Gulf coast, which was built with Moscow's help, with about 100 Russian staff remaining there by now.

IAEA says no radiation spike

The International Atomic Energy Agency said on Saturday that it has been informed by Iran about the strike near the premises of the Bushehr nuclear facility that killed a security guard and impacted a building in the complex.

Rafael Grossi, head of the International Atomic Energy Agency wrote on X that no increase in radiation levels had been reported at the site, but nonetheless voiced "deep concern" at the strike, which he said was the fourth such incident in recent weeks.

"NPP (nuclear power plant) sites or nearby areas must never be attacked," he said.

There were also more strikes on Tehran, where an AFP journalist saw a thick haze of grey smoke covering the skyline.

Strikes on Saturday hit a petrochemicals hub, a cement plant and a trade terminal on the Iran-Iraq border, where one person was reported killed.

Shrapnel from intercepted drones injured four people in Bahrain on Saturday. Separately, debris hit two Dubai buildings, including one housing US cloud firm Oracle, authorities said.

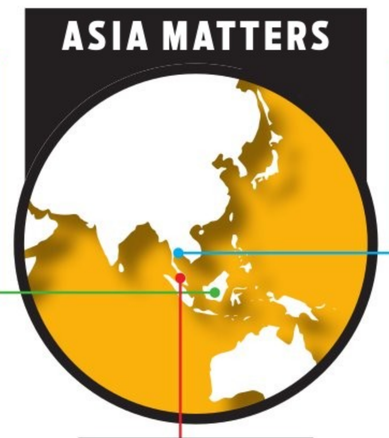
EU pushes energy windfall tax

Spain and four other European Union nations have called for a tax on windfall profits of energy companies in response to rising fuel prices due to the West Asia war, Spanish Economy Minister Carlos Cuerpo said on Saturday.

Prabowo honours fallen troops

Meanwhile, Indonesian president Prabowo Subianto paid his respects and offered final condolences to three Indonesian soldiers killed while serving on a UNIFIL peacekeeping mission in Lebanon, during a lying-in-state ceremony at Soekarno-Hatta Airport in Tangerang, Banten, on Saturday evening. *AFP*

ASIA MATTERS



INDONESIA

NAVY WARSHIP RETURNS AFTER KAKADU DRILL

A navy warship has docked in Ambon after joining Exercise Kakadu 2026 in Australia, aimed at boosting maritime defence cooperation. The biennial drill, hosted by the Royal Australian Navy, involved multiple countries and focused on naval warfare, law enforcement and humanitarian operations. Officials said participation improves coordination, professionalism and combat readiness. The guided-missile frigate trained with partner navies and has advanced weapons, radar and helicopter capabilities, strengthening operational effectiveness and maritime security.

MALAYSIA

SOLDIER CRITICAL AFTER CAMP ASSAULT

An army personnel remains in critical condition on life support after an alleged assault at a military camp. Authorities have launched a police probe and internal inquiry. A corporal has been detained. Army chief said violence is unacceptable and vowed strict action if those responsible are found guilty.

THAILAND

ANUTIN ORDERS CRACKDOWN ON OIL HOARDING

Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul has ordered a probe into suspected oil hoarding, citing six tactics including supply delays, stockpiling and irregular data. Authorities suspect diversion amid rising fuel demand. The Department of Special Investigation will lead the case with multiple agencies. Officials said daily consumption has surged without economic cause, raising concerns of manipulation. The government is subsidising fuel prices heavily and warned strict action against offenders. It also assured adequate supply and urged the public not to panic or hoard fuel unnecessarily.

77 dead in 10 days as landslides, floods batter Afghanistan

KABUL

WIDESPREAD flooding, landslides and lightning strikes triggered by heavy rain and storms across Afghanistan have left 77 people dead and 137 injured over the past 10 days, the country's Disaster Management Authority said on Saturday.

More rain has been forecast for the coming days throughout Afghanistan, and the authority warned the public to stay away from river banks and areas prone to flooding.

So far this year, dozens of people have died due to extreme weather in Afghanistan, an impoverished country that is highly vulnerable to extreme weather events. Earlier this year, heavy snowfall and flash floods left dozens of people dead across the country.

The recent toll includes 26 people killed over the past 48 hours, the disaster authority said. Overall, 793 homes have been completely destroyed and a further 2,673 have been damaged, while floods and landslides have destroyed 337 kilometers of roads, it said.

Businesses, agricultural land, water wells and irrigation canals have also been damaged, with more than 5,800 families affected overall, the authority said. Several highways connecting the country's capital to the provinces have also been damaged by floods and landslides, forcing travelers to take long, circuitous routes to reach Kabul, Public Works Ministry spokesman Ashraf Haqshinas said on Saturday.

They include the Kabul to Jalalabad highway, which is the main route linking the capital to the Pakistani border and eastern Afghan provinces. A landslide and rockfalls, as well as flooding, shut the highway on Thursday morning, and Haqshinas said crews were working to reopen the road. *AP*

Residents inspect building that partially collapsed due to flooding in Jalalabad | AP

QUAKE OF 5.8-MAGNITUDE KILLS 12 PEOPLE

ITTEFAQ: A 5.8-magnitude earthquake in northern Afghanistan killed at least 12 people, including eight from a refugee family near Kabul. Only a three-year-old boy survived, now hospitalised with head injuries. The family, recently returned from Iran, lived in a tent when a wall collapsed during the quake. Five homes were destroyed and 33 damaged across several provinces, affecting 40 families. Heavy rains had weakened the ground. Rescue efforts were hampered by debris.

Pechanga Fire Department firefighters monitor fast-growing wildfire Springs Fire in Moreno Valley, California | AP

Fast-growing wildfire forces evacuations in Southern Cali

RIVERSIDE

CREWS battled a smoky and fast-growing wildfire Friday in windy Southern California that forced some residents to evacuate and a community college to temporarily close its doors.

The Springs Fire broke out around 11 am Friday and by the evening had grown to about 6.5 square miles. The cause of the fire east of Moreno Valley in Riverside County is under investigation. It was not immediately known how many households were under evacuation warnings or orders. With hundreds of people battling the blaze — using helicopters, engines and water tenders — crews started to contain the blaze by Friday night.

The fire was burning in a populated — but not densely so — unincorporated part of Riverside County in a recreational area near the city of Moreno Valley, which has a population of roughly 200,000. The city is 10 miles southeast of Riverside and 64 miles east of Los Angeles. "It's windy out there," said Maggie Cline De La Rosa, a public information officer for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection in Riverside County.

Alex Izaguirre, a spokesperson for the Cal Fire Riverside County, said the wind is "spreading the smoke," prompting concerned calls from residents in neighboring cities who can see and smell it. *AP*

Pak rejects reports of setback in Iran-US peace talks

ISLAMABAD

PAKISTAN on Saturday rejected media reports that its initiative to facilitate talks between the US and Iran to end the ongoing conflict in West Asia had hit obstacles after the initial exchange of peace proposals.

Speculation emerged after a senior Foreign Ministry official briefed a select group of journalists on Pakistan's efforts to find a negotiated settlement of the ongoing conflict.

Foreign Office spokesperson Tahir Andrabi rejected the media reports as "baseless" and a "figment of imagination."

"We have noted several reports in the media, including on social media, citing so-called official government sources regarding the ongoing conflict in the region and Pakistan's efforts to promote peace and dialogue," he said in a statement.

Similarly, Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi dismissed Western media reports suggesting a stalemate in Pakistan-facilitated talks between Iran and the US, labelling it as "misrepresented."

"We are deeply grateful to Pakistan for its efforts and have never refused to go to Islamabad," he said in a social media post. "What we care about are the terms of a conclusive and lasting END to the illegal war that is imposed on us," Araghchi added. Pakistan took action following the onset of the war, driven in part by its obligation to defend Saudi Arabia against potential attacks from Iran.

While Pakistan has struggled to broker a ceasefire, it has managed to distance itself from direct involvement in the conflict. "We categorically reject these false insinuations attributed to purported official sources as baseless and a figment of imagination. Any attribution to official sources in this regard is incorrect," Andrabi said, commenting on media reports. He said that it was a matter of concern that the briefing held on Friday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had been "misrepresented". He said that at a time of heightened regional sensitivity, diplomacy requires both discretion and responsibility.

"We therefore urge all media platforms to exercise due diligence, avoid speculation and rely exclusively on officially issued statements and media readouts for accurate and timely information," he said. *PTI*

Govt slashes petrol price after backlash

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif slashed petrol prices by PKR 80 per litre to PKR 378 after a sharp hike triggered backlash. The earlier increase had pushed prices above PKR 450 amid rising global oil costs. Sharif blamed the West Asia conflict and pledged stability for a month. He also announced subsidies for motorcyclists, transporters and farmers, and extended austerity measures, including six months without salaries for ministers. Pakistan has been hit hard by supply disruptions and rising fuel costs linked to tensions in the Gulf.

IT'S NOT FLATTERING

Rising UFO buzz turns the cosmic lens back on humanity

ROSWELL

FOR generations, human beings have wondered: What would alien life from another planet be like? But we rarely ask the opposite: What would they think of us? It's a question that can produce some, well, uncomfortable answers if you happen to be an earthling.

"If I were looking at Earth from a distance, I would be pretty disappointed," theoretical physicist Avi Loeb says. "Most of our investing is dealing with conflicts to prevent other people from killing us or us killing others. Look at the Ukraine war over a little bit of territory. That is not a sign of intelligence." The debate on whether little green men or UFOs are among us escalated in February when former president Barack Obama, responding to a podcaster's question, said aliens are "real," but he "hasn't seen them" and "they're not being kept at Area 51." President Donald Trump later announced on social media that he was directing release of government files because of "tremendous interest." Stepped-up interest in UFOs also is swirling as the United States heads back toward the moon with Wednesday's launch of NASA's Artemis II mission. The four astronauts aboard will do a fly-around of the moon before returning to Earth.

FILE: Model ships hang at the entrance to the Star Trek Experience at the Las Vegas Hilton in Las Vegas | AP

In a world riven by war, civil unrest, climate change and divisiveness, it's easy to wonder what newcomers to Planet Earth might make of us and our struggles. Whatever the case, well over a majority of Americans echo the sentiment of the slogan from "The X-Files": "The truth is out there." A 2021 survey conducted by the Pew Research Center showed about two-thirds of Americans said their best guess is that intelligent life exists on other planets. About half of US adults said UFOs reported by people in the military are "definitely" or "probably" evidence of intelligent life outside Earth. "We don't want to think this is the only place in this extraordinarily and incomprehensibly large universe where life and intelligence and even technology have emerged," says Bill Diamond, president and chief executive of the SETI Institute in Mountain View, California. "It sort of says about humans, 'We don't want to be alone.'"

Americans have been fascinated by the thought of life outside this planet following the recovery of debris in 1947 near Roswell, New Mexico.

The military initially said the material was from a flying disc, only to reverse course and tell the public it was from a weather balloon. *AP*

Probe into police leaving guns outside London mayor's home

LONDON

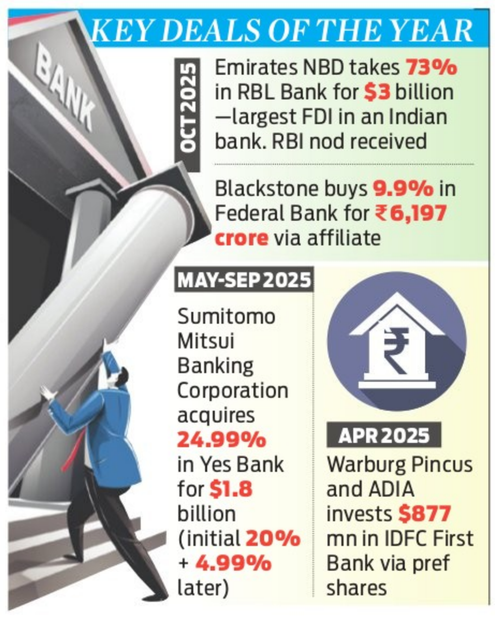
LONDON police are urgently investigating how armed protection officers guarding Mayor Sadiq Khan left a bag of guns outside his home.

The Metropolitan Police said in a statement late Friday that five officers had been removed from front-line duties while inquiries were being carried out. The weapons cache, which according to The Sun newspaper included an MP5 semiautomatic Heckler & Koch carbine, a Glock pistol, Taser and ammunition, were found in south London Tuesday by a couple, who then informed the Metropolitan Police. Scaffolder Jordan Griffiths told the newspaper that his girlfriend found the bag by the curbside and said that he was in "shock" after discovering what was inside.

"I could not believe my eyes and took some pictures as proof of what we had found," he said. "I called the police and told them what I had found and within a few minutes they turned up to collect the guns." The police Directorate of Professional Standards is reviewing what happened and confirmed that five officers have been removed from front-line duties.

"We are urgently reviewing the circumstances of this incident and recognize the concern it may cause," it said in a statement. "At this stage it is believed the bag was misplaced by on-duty officers a short time before the member of the public located it." *AP*

₹7.40 L CR Capital expenditure made by Central Public Sector Enterprises in April 2025-Feb 2026, which is 99% of the annual budget estimates of ₹7.47 lakh crore for FY26


KEY DEALS OF THE YEAR
BANK
OCT 2025
Emirates NBD takes 73% in RBL Bank for $3 billion —largest FDI in an Indian bank. RBI nod received
Blackstone buys 9.9% in Federal Bank for ₹6,197 crore via affiliate
MAY-SEP 2025
Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation acquires 24.99% in Yes Bank for $1.8 billion (initial 20% + 4.99% later)
APR 2025
Warburg Pincus and ADIA invests $877 mn in IDFC First Bank via pref shares
DEC 2025
MUFG Bank acquires 20% in Shriram Finance for $4.4 billion through fresh equity. It is largest cross-border/FDI deal in India's financial sector
International Holding Company (IHC) buys 66.5% in Sammaan Capital for $1 bn via mix of fresh equity and open offer; becomes promoterw

Global investors make beeline for Indian fin cos

Indian banks, NBFCs received net ₹93,163 cr foreign direct investmentss in 2025 from sovereign funds, financial powerhouses

BENN KOCHUVEEDAN @ Mumbai

THE Indian financial sector – the banks and NBFCs – have been attracting a lot of attention of foreign investors, who are buying large stakes in these companies despite many regulatory hurdles.

Four commercial banks — RBL Bank, Yes Bank, Federal Bank and IDFC First Bank, and three non-banks — Shriram Finance, Sammaan Capital and Manappuram Finance — and insurer Kotak General Insurance have attracted a whopping ₹1,14,552 crore in 2025 from foreign investors, who are mostly storied financial powerhouses or sovereign entities.

Of these, Shriram's 20% stake sale to Japanese financial powerhouse MUFG Bank for ₹39,618 crore is the largest FDI on record into the domestic financial services sector while the 73% stake sale in RBL Bank to Emirate NBD for ₹26,853 crore is the largest foreign investment in a domestic bank till date.

Of course, there was also one major capital outflow in the year when Bajaj Group paid ₹21,390 crore to buy back 23% held by the German insurance major Allianz in its two joint ventures held for 24 years. That makes the net inflows ₹93,163 crore — all within the span of 12 months and the largest coming in December when the mostly asset-financing non-bank Shriram Finance announced a 20% equity sale to MUFG Bank of Japan for a $4.4 billion deal. The total inflows in the sector jumped more than 140% in the year.

What is driving trend?

Analysts opine that the series of investments by UAE-government owned entities clearly signal a political push for more stable money from non-Western sources, while investments by Japanese banks show that they are clearly looking for growth markets as their home market has long been saturated.

India's financial sector is one of the very closely-held, tightly-protected, and dominated by domestic promoters and conservative regulations. Yet many banks and non-banks have been getting FDI.

Even IDBI Bank, whose disinvestment process had to be shelved once again due to lower valuation by the bidders, attracted the interest of two foreign entities — Fairfax Financials and Emirates NBD.

What is the value UAE and Japanese banks and other foreign fund houses see and want to lap up stakes in these small private sector banks and a few non-banks? Already foreigners own 48.4% of HDFC Bank and 46.8% in ICICI Bank. The regulatory cap for foreign ownership in private banks is 74%.

While each of these deals is significant on its own, they signal something larger — a global relook at the country's financial sector and growth potential. The sector was once considered over-regulated and fragmented, but now it's emerging as one of the world's fastest-growing and most interesting destinations for long-term investments.

Cautious stance

The RBI has also taken a positive, but cautious, stance in allowing the entry of global entities.

According to McKinsey, the India banking industry is the largest sector by net income, generating $46 billion in 2024, with a 31% annual growth. Banks' revenue growth is expected to be healthy in both retail and wholesale banking as financial penetration deepens. "Despite strong performance, the banking sector is valued lower among industries, indicating market scepticism about long-term value creation," McKinsey said in a recent report.

Easy scale up

Yashraj Erande, leader, financial institutions at BCG India, told *TNIE* that the economics behind the rise of our financial sector assets are many. First, an investor can build valuation multiples, and secondly return on equity (RoE) metrics are much higher here at 13-14%, and finally higher operating efficiencies make it easier for further scaling up.

Also, Erande says India offers a large opportunity to build a strong balance sheet that can be added to the investor's group balance-sheets. The price-to-earnings (PEs) of smaller banks, which are less than 1, means they're coming in cheaper yet remains as a going concern and ensures that there are more upsides left in these banks. Bank credit to GDP growth ratio is so low here that in the past one decade it never crossed 1x. India's bank credit to GDP is 50% compared to the global average of 93%.

However, Erande cautions: "We need to be thoughtful about the source of the capital and we should be welcoming only long-term capital as geopolitics is so complex now. Therefore, partners whose strategic interests are aligned should only be welcomed."

Another analyst who heads the financial services vertical at a rating agency, says most of the capital coming in especially from the UAE should be seen as a strong political message to the West, especially to the US, with which our trade and diplomatic ties are at a nadir since early this year.

"The three huge investments by the UAE-based government entities is a clear signal from New Delhi to the West, especially Washingto that we no longer are dependent on their money and that we have enough sources now for stable fund flows," he told *TNIE*.

NEWSCOPE

INDIA'S WATERMAN TAKES UP TASK TO SAVE HILLS

GURBIR SINGH

RESTORING rivers and fighting to save the Aravalli hills is what Dr Rajendra Singh has been doing. But now he is moving to a broader canvas. The Magsaysay awardee and conservationist, also known as the 'Waterman of India', has called a convention on May 22 at Jamshedpur to finalise an Indian Mountains Preservation Bill. It will kick off a new campaign to protect and preserve the country's high altitude assets spread over the Himalayan and other mountain ranges.

The Bill's focus will be to set up an autonomous Mountain Authority which will monitor the hills and lay down rules for their ecological preservation.

"Today, we have nothing to protect our mountain assets. River paths are being changed in the name of tourism and infrastructure growth," said Rajendra Singh in an exclusive interview. The new campaign to protect India's mountainous regions is but an extension of his long drawn battle to preserve the Aravalli range. The 670-km long rolling hills running through 4 northern states, have been eyed by real estate and mining interests for decades.

The sariska judgement

Quite recently, the Supreme Court, on January 1 stayed its own November 2025 judgment on the Aravallis that had adopted a restrictive 100-meter elevation criterion to define a protected 'hill'. Had this been adopted, it would have stripped protection from over 90% of the low-lying range.

The court is now reviewing this definition through a new committee to protect the ecosystem. The original landmark apex court judgment of 1992, penned by Justices B.P. Jeevan Reddy and M.N. Venkatachaliah, originated from PILs filed by Rajendra Singh and others to protect the Sariska Tiger Sanctuary and the Aravalli hills around from illegal mining.

The bench prohibited all mining activities within the Sariska Wildlife Sanctuary and its periphery to preserve forest wealth and wildlife.

Justice Venkatachaliah famously noted that while government is above big business, and individual liberty is above government, the environment is above all.

"We have come a long way from the 1992 judgment," rued the conservationist. Earlier, we drew a workable balance between nature and human needs. Today, insensitive committees are working on a compromise between pressure groups and administrative compulsion. "What will emerge will not be sustainable decisions," he added. Talking of his early days, the 'Waterman' said he was deeply influenced by the Jaiprakash Narayan movement that kicked off in Bihar in 1974 for 'Sampooran Kranti'. After graduation though, much to the glee of

MANDAR PARDIKAR

his parents, he took up a job with the state's education department.

Rajendra Singh described his early-days disillusionment with the corrupt politicians who rose from the ranks of the JP movement, as well as of the regressive nature of government jobs. Even his ayurvedic barefoot doctor work left him dissatisfied.

"A semi-blind farm worker, Mangu kaka, told me I should be a doctor to 'Mother Earth'; and greater good will be achieved if I can help stop the millions of poor from eviction from their villages," he recalled.

Old Mangu triggered his resignation from his government positions, and he formed the Tarun Bharat Sangh in 1984, returning to the village Hori-Bhikampura, on the outskirts of the Sariska Tiger Reserve. This became his headquarters not only to fight the mining lobbies, but to develop water management and preservation in these semi-arid regions abutting the Thar desert.

Reviving Rivers

Traditional conservation techniques such as the johad, or percolation pond, were revived to drain rainwater to the subterranean levels. This prevented evaporation and raised the water table. Hundreds of check dams too were built to to harvest and store rain water.

Mining is the natural enemy of water conservation, points out Rajendra Singh. Through layers of stone and slate, water makes its way to the mines, creating an impediment to the excavation process. Water is then pumped or drained away, and lost forever.

Stopping mining operations, building johads or pokhars (percolation ponds) and check dams at nearly 9,000 sites, he has greened nearly 1,000 villages, and revived as many as 32 rivers in the northern states. Those in Rajasthan include the Arvari, Ruparel, Sarsa, Bhagani and Jahajwali.

A spin-off from the water conservation movement is the end of dacoity in the region. Rajendra Singh said he started work in 1998 when village youth took to dacoity because even large land holding bore little harvest. However, when water brought these lands back to life, the women folk convinced many of the outlaws to return home as farmers.

One such success story was that of dacoit Umrao Singh of Amalpur village. From 2015, the village began to prosper, and Umrao decided to surrender to the police. After a year the Tarun Bharat Sangh gifted him a pair of goats. The initial investment expanded to a herd of sheep and 5 buffaloes. Today Umrao Singh is a proud herdsman with an income of about Rs 5 lakh a year.

Working over two decades, Rajendra Singh has supervised the surrender of 6.323 outlaws; but he says now he is working to end a different kind of dacoity. A large number of villages in the Mewat region have taken to cyber crime. "These youth are uneducated, but they have been trained to hack phones and cream off bank balances." Bringing them back to farming will be a more difficult challenge, he says.

New OTR for equity options from tomorrow

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Mumbai

INDIAN stock exchanges issued circulars relaxing the new order-to-trade ratio (OTR) framework for equity derivatives option segment effective Monday, in line with SEBI guidelines announced in February.

The Sebi has revised the OTR framework for algorithmic trading, relaxing norms for equity options and exempting market makers. Key changes include a plus-minus40% last traded price or plus-minus Rs 20 (whichever is higher) exemption band for options, while a plus-minus 0.75% LTP limit remains for cash and futures, aimed at enhancing liquidity, with penalties for non-compliance.

The move is expected to provide relief to market participants, particularly those engaged in high-frequency and liquidity-providing strategies. A high OTR indicates excessive orders with relatively low execution, creating some extra noise in the system. Such activity is commonly associated with high-frequency trading.

No payment hurdle for crude imports from Iran, says govt

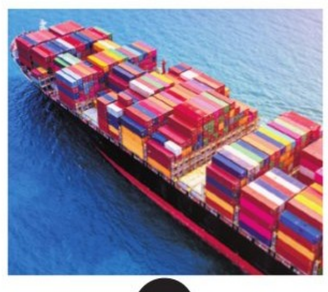
RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

THE Centre on Saturday said that there is no payment-related hurdle over Iranian crude imports in the country, and India has purchased crude from Iran as well.

The response came after a news report claimed that an Iranian crude cargo was diverted from Vadinar in India to China due to "delay in payment". The Union petroleum ministry, in a social media post, called these claims factually incorrect, stating that India imports crude oil from more than 40 countries, with companies having full flexibility to source oil from different regions based on commercial considerations.

"Amid West Asia supply disruptions, the Indian refiners have secured their crude oil requirements, including from Iran; and there is no payment hurdle for Iranian crude imports, contrary to the rumours being circulated," said the petroleum ministry.

On April 3, 2026, according to ship-tracking firm Kpler, an



The Indian refiners have secured their crude oil requirements and there is no payment hurdle for Iranian crude imports

The Petroleum Ministry

Iranian tanker carrying crude oil that was en route to India over the past three days changed course, and is now heading towards China instead. The vessel is bound for the port of Dongying, with an expected arrival on April 29, instead of its earlier destination of Vadinar.

According to Kpler, the re-routing is likely linked to payment-related issues, but the firm also mentioned that the ship could still be redirected to an Indian refinery.

The tanker Ping Shun is carrying about 600,000 barrels of crude oil loaded from Kharg Island around March 4. Earlier, it was expected to arrive at Vadinar on April 4.

The ongoing conflict between Iran and Israel, has impacted cargo movement through the Strait of Hormuz — a critical passage that handles around 20% of the world's crude and 25% of gas supply. In response to the situation, the United States issued a 30-day sanctions waiver for Iranian oil already at sea. As per the Office of Foreign Assets Control, the waiver applies to oil loaded on vessels on or before March 20 and discharged by April 19.

The ministry further said that claims about vessel diversion ignore how oil trade works. According to the ministry, bills of lading often carry indicative discharge destinations, and cargoes can change ports mid-voyage based on trade optimisation and operational flexibility.

Tata Steel gets ₹1,755 crore demand notice

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

TATA Steel Limited has received a demand notice of about ₹1,755 crore from the District Mining Office (DMO), Ramgarh, Jharkhand, over alleged excess extraction of coal from its West Bokaro colliery. The notice, dated March 30 and received by the company on April 3, alleges that Tata Steel mined around 1.62 crore metric tonnes of coal beyond permissible limits during 2000-01 to 2006-07.

According to the company, the demand has been raised on grounds similar to those cited by the Supreme Court in the Common Cause vs. Union of India case, which dealt with penalties for illegal or excess mining.

Tata Steel, however, has contested the claim, stating that the demand "lacks justification and substantive basis." The company said it will pursue appropriate legal remedies before judicial or quasi-judicial forums.

Tata Steel has captive coal mines at Jharia and West Bokaro in the state of Jharkhand, located within a 200 km radius of Jamshedpur. It meets 25% of its coal needs from two open-cast pits in West Bokaro and two underground collieries in Jharia.

In 2024-25, West Bokaro achieved its highest-ever clean coal production of 2.62 MT. The Bhelatand Coal Processing Plant in Jharia achieved the highest-ever throughput of 1.14 MT against the previous best of 1.11 MT in FY2022-23. Tata Steel Jamshedpur is the oldest integrated steel facility in India, continuously operating for over a century. It has over 11 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) capacity.

Tata Steel has generated ₹87,243 crore revenue and a net profit of over ₹11,000 crore in the first nine months of the current FY2025-26.

Business & Beyond

TenderCuts raises $20 million on achieving profitability at store and consolidated level

TenderCuts, India's first omnichannel fresh meat and seafood brand, has raised $2 million through debt from Lakme Finance. The raise follows the company's transition to profitability, making TenderCuts the first organised player in the fresh meat and seafood category in India to achieve positive EBITDA at both the store and consolidated levels. TenderCuts has, from its inception, focused on building a structured and scalable fresh meat and seafood ecosystem. The current fund raise comes at a pivotal point in the company's journey, following its transition to profitability and the successful execution of a comprehensive turnaround plan.

Niyo Forex bets on TN's growing outbound travel and remittance demand

Niyo recently announced the launch of its Niyo Forex branch in Chennai, marking a key milestone in its strategy to expand across high-growth cross-border corridors in India. The launch is part of Niyo's broader plan to build a 50-branch nationwide "phygital" network, combining its digital-first platform with an expanding on-ground presence to better serve customers across key travel and remittance markets. The company is targeting a 10–15% share of India's outbound forex market, estimated at over USD 45 billion in the next 18 months, by continuing to scale its distribution and enhance customer experience. OAmit Talwar, CEO, Niyo Forex, said, "Chennai is a strategically important market for us, given its strong remittance base, growing outbound travel and student mobility. Our expansion strengthens our presence in Tamil Nadu, enabling faster, more transparent cross-border transactions. "

SCO appoints Servotech's MD Raman Bhatia as head of Working Group on Energy

Servotech Renewable Power System Ltd. announces that its Managing Director, Raman Bhatia (pic), has been appointed as the Head of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Working Group on 'Energy & Green Economy' under the SCO Business Council Secretariat (India). This appointment represents leadership across a consortium of 28 countries within the SCO framework, one of the world's most influential intergovernmental organizations driving collaboration across energy transition, sustainability, and green economic development. In this role, Raman Bhatia will work closely with international stakeholders to strengthen cross-border partnerships, enable knowledge exchange, and support the development of scalable and sustainable clean energy solutions across member nations. This recognition reinforces Servotech's growing global relevance and its active role in advancing EV infrastructure, renewable energy solutions, and power electronics innovation.

AIR FORCE STATION

Yelahanka, Bangalore-560063

REGIMENTAL SHOP

AOC Air Force Station Yelahanka invites tender applications from suitable vendors for running the regimental shop at Air Force Station Yelahanka, Bangalore for a period of 11 months. All qualifying applicants will be given preference as per the categories as follows: **(a)** War widows/Widows of defence personnel killed while on duty **(b)** Disabled soldiers/Ex-servicemen **(c)** Spouses/ Widows of Ex servicemen. **Availability of forms:** At SI Office on all working days (0900-1400 hrs from 06.04.26 to 20.04.26) **Cost of Forms:** Rs. 200/-(Non Refundable). **Earnest Money:** Rs.1,000/- in the form of DD in favor of OIC SI Fund AFS Yelahanka (Refundable). **Deposit of forms:** Tender Box will be kept at Main Guard Room from 06.04.26 to 20.04.26. **Opening of tender:** 1100 AM on 21.04.2026 (In presence of applicants if any). The following shops available for tendering with minimum tender value of quote:-

SI No.	Name of the Shop	Area	Cat	MRP (in Rs.)
1.1	112 HU DSS Cafe	Technical Area	ESM	1400/-
1.2	Uniform and Stationary	Shopping Complex	ESM	5000/-
1.3	Organic/Misc. Shop		Open	3,000/-
1.4	Cycle Repair Shop		Open	300/-
1.5	Milk Shop		ESM	8,000/-
1.6	Pani Poori Shop	Food Court	ESM	5,000/-
1.7	Fast Food Shop		ESM	8,000/-
1.8	Samosa Shop		ESM	8,000/-

Right to accept or reject any of the bids: AOC, AFS Yelahanka. Contact No.080-23411081 Extn. 7235 (Between 0900 hrs to 1400 hrs on all working days) Mobile No: 8264538805/8968963474.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby notified that my client Sri. Ganesh G, son of Sri. Govindappa is intending to purchase and entered into sale agreement dated 25.03.2026, the immovable property morefully described schedule here under written. Smt. Lakshminarasamma, wife of late. Sriramalu, the seller is representing that other than her, no other person/s have got any right, title, interest, charge and ownership over the schedule property. If any person/s have got any right, title, interest, charge and ownership over the schedule property and/or having any objections over the said sale transaction may lodge his/their objections with supporting documents to the under signed within TEN days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, it will be presumed that there will be no objections whatsoever manner and my clients will proceed to purchase schedule property.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing Municipal No.11/1, it was portion of Municipal No.11, PID No.25-4-11/1, EPID No.5217061312, situated at 1st Main Road, Kalappa Block, Ramachandrapura, Bengaluru-560 021, BBMP Ward No.25(96), measuring East to West 30 feet & North to South 30 feet, totally measuring 900 Square Feet and bounded on the;

East by : property belong to Jayamma & Nataraj
West by : property belongs to Parusharam,
North by : Road and
South by : Common Passage.

Yathiraj & Associates, Advocates, No.1673/1, 3rd Main Road, Ramamohanpura, Near Devaiah Park Bangalore-21, Mob: 98452 48173

Tumkur Grain Merchants Co-op Bank Ltd.,

Head Office : B.H. Road, Tumkur-572103, Karnataka,
Phone : 0816-2257636 / 4021102-103, Fax : 0816-2255905,
Email : tgmc.ho@tgmcbank.com, Website: www.tgmcbank.com

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE ASSETS UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT 2002.

Whereas, borrower **(1) Mrs. G Reddy Komala, (2) Mr. Shivashankar D, (3) Mr. Shirdeesh P M S, All are residing at :** No.75/8, 2nd Main, 5th Block, Banashankari 3rd Phase, Bangalore-560085. **Guarantors: (1) Mr. Satish B** S/o Ramachandra Rao B, Flat No.504, 4th Floor, Siri Anand Apartment, 6th Main Road, Opp. Axis Bank, Uttarahalli Main Road, Bangalore-560061, **(2) Mr. Shivakumar** S/o Narayanaswamy M No. F201, Unique Signature Apartment, Ayappa Temple Road, Byatarayanapura, Bangalore-560092, having failed to repay the debt in respect of borrowing from **TUMKUR GRAIN MERCHANTS CO-OP BANK LTD., Sahakarnagar Branch, Bangalore.** The total amount due and payable by them jointly and severally as per the agreed terms and conditions is **Rs. 3,38,30,000/- (Rupees Three Crore Thirty Eight Lakhs Thirty Thousand Only) as on 30.11.2019,** along with interest at the applicable rate and costs thereon. **(The present outstanding Amount is Rs.7,93,80,496/- as on 03.04.2026).**

Whereas the Bank has issued notice under Section 13 (2) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 and in pursuant to and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13 (4) of the Act, the Authorized Officer has taken possession of the mortgaged property including those more fully described hereunder on **12.12.2019,** and the Bank has decided to sell the below mentioned property under the provisions of the SARFAESI Act read with the relevant rules of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Description of Property	Reserve Price (in Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (in Rs.)	Date & Time of Auction
All that part and parcel of residential building property bearing No.1613, 35th Cross, BSK 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560070, measuring East to West 22.20+19.5/2 mtr and North to South 10.4+25/2 mts, totally 369.04 sq. mts. and schedule B Property 1100 sq. ft. in Ground Floor and 500 sq. ft. in the First Floor, Constructed there on.Bounded By: East : Property No.1612, West : Road, North : Road, South: Property No.1566/1567. **Latitude Longitude of the property: 12.920886, 77.562444**	Rs. 4,60,00,000/- (Rupees Four Crore Sixty Lakh Only)	Rs. 46,00,000/- (Rupees Forty Six Lakhs Only)	08.05.2026 From 11.15 AM to 11.45 AM

This Notice shall also serve as Notice under Sub Rule (6) of Rule 8 / Sub Rule (1) of Rule 9 of Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 to the Borrower/Guarantors.

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to link in **https://www.auctionbazaar.com/** any further clarification contact **Tumkur Grain Merchants Co-Op Bank Ltd., 2nd Floor, 2nd Cross, ESI Road, 4th Block, Dr. Rajkumar Road, Rajajinagar, Bangalore 560010 (Mob: 9880882881, 9449027476).**

The E-auction will be conducted through portal **https://www.auctionbazaar.com/ on 08.05.2026 from 11.15 AM to 11.45 AM** with unlimited extension of 05 minutes. The intending bidder is required to register their name at https://www.auctionbazaar.com/ and get the user Id and password free of cost and get training i.e. online training on E-auction **(tentatively on 07.05.2026)** from **M/s ARCA Emart Pvt. Ltd. (Auction Bazaar), TGMC Ltd., 2nd Floor, 2nd Cross, ESI Road, 4th Block, Dr. Rajkumar Road, Rajajinagar, Bangalore 560010, for online registration/training clarifications Contact No. : 7799728999, 8370969696, E-mail: disposal.karnataka@auctionbazaar.com**

Date : 04.04.2026
Place : Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer
TUMKUR GRAIN MERCHANTS CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.,

HDFC BANK LIMITED

HDFC BANK

Regd. Office: HDFC Bank House, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai - 400013
Branch: #51, HDFC House, Kasturba Road, Bangalore 560 001
Tel:-080-41183000 CIN L65920MH1994PLC080618 Website: www.hdfcbank.com

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13 (2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **HDFC Bank Limited** (erstwhile HDFC Limited having amalgamated with HDFC Bank Limited by virtue of a Scheme of Amalgamation approved by Hon'ble NCLT-Mumbai vide order dated 17th March 2023) **(HDFC)** under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued Demand Notices under Section 13 (2) of the said Act, calling upon the Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) listed hereunder, to pay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice/s, within 60 days from the date of the respective Notice/s, as per details given below. The undersigned have, caused these Notices to be pasted on the premises of the last known respective addresses of the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s). Copies of the said Notices are available with the undersigned, and the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s), may, if they so desire, collect the respective copy from the undersigned on any working day during normal office hours.

In connection with the above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) to pay to **HDFC,** within 60 days from the date of publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below in their respective names, together with further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notices from the respective dates mentioned below in column (c) till the date of payment and / or realization, read with the loan agreement and other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following Secured Asset(s) have been mortgaged to **HDFC** by the said Borrower (s) respectively.

Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset/s.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative (s)	Total Outstanding Dues	Date of Demand Notice	Description of Secured Asset in respect of which Security Interest has been created
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(f)
1	**Mr. K Ramprasad (Borrower)** No 336/1, Manjunatha Nilaya, Channasandra Main Road, Kalkere, Horamavu, Bangalore- 560043 **Also at : Mr. K Ramprasad** S No 66/2, House 04, 7th Cross, Kalkere Main Road, Sri MV Nagar, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bangalore 560016	**Loan A/c No. 1) 621249595 Rs.26,36,542/- 2) 622263290 Rs.79,716/- Total Amount : Rs.27,16,258/- (Rupees Twenty Seven Lakhs Sixteen Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Eight Only) as on 28.02.2026**	**28.03.2026** .... **N.P.A. Date: (e) 03.10.2025**	All that piece and parcel of property bearing **Site No.4,** Sy.No.66/2, situated at Kalkere Main Road, Sri M V Nagar, Ramamurthy Nagar, Kowdenahalli Village, K R Puram Hobli, South Taluk, now Bangalore East Taluk, coming under BBMP limits, Bangalore, measuring East to West : 30 feet and North to South : 40 Feet, in all **1200 Sq.ft.** and RCC building of 3206 Sq.ft on the ground floor, first floor, and third floor, including compound and any construction thereon and bounded on the : **East By:** 40 Feet Road, **West By:** M. Ramakrishna's Property, **North By:** Road, **South By:** Property belongs to Kasthuri; and constructions thereon.
2	**Mr. Dadha Ankush (Borrower)** Bid and Hammer Auctioneers Private Limited Designation: Director, No.11, Whitefield Main Road, Bengaluru- 560066 **Also at : Mr. Dadha Ankush** Flat-105, Ground Floor, Dadha House, Plot 136/69,7th Main, 5th Block, Jaynagar Extension, Bangalore-560011 **M/S Bid and Hammer Auctioneers Private Limited (Co-Borrower)** Represented by Mr. Dadha Ankush, **Designation:** Consultant, No.11, Whitefield Main Road, Bengaluru- 560066 **Also at : M/S Bid and Hammer Auctioneers Private Limited,** Flat-105, Ground Floor, Dadha House, Plot 136/69,7th Main, 5th Block, Jaynagar Extension, Bangalore 560011	**Loan A/c No. 633746417 Rs.1,61,36,685/- (Rupees One Crore Sixty One Lakhs Thirty Six Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Five Only) as on 28.02.2026**	**25.03.2026** .... **N.P.A. Date: (e) 03.01.2026**	**Schedule-A :** All that piece and parcel of Residential Property bearing **New No.69, cold No.136),** formed by Bangalore Development Authority, situated at 7th Main Road, 5th Block. Jayanagar Extension, Bangalore-560041, BBMP Ward No. 58, Jayanagar. PID No. 58-107-69, measuring East to West: 90 feet and North to South: 45 feet, in all measuring **4050 Square feet** and bounded on: **East by:** Road, **West by:** Property bearing No.95, **North by:** Property bearing No.137, **South by :** Road. **Schedule-B :** All that piece and parcel of Residential **3 BHK Flat No.105** at **Ground Floor** being erected in **"Dadha House"** Residential Apartment situated at 7th Main Road, 5th Block. Jayanagar Extension, Bangalore-560041 and having **1012.5 Sq.Ft.** of Undivided Share in the Schedule 'A' Property. It has **super built up area of 3871 square feet** (including 820 Sq. Ft. of Private Garden) together with three covered **Car parking space** Slot Nos: 01, 02 & 07 along with 01 Maid Room.
3	**Mrs. Asha Seshadri (Borrower)** #446/1, 10th Cross, Tellar Road, Karkala, Hiriangady, Udupi 574104 **Also at : Mrs. Asha Seshadri,** Latent Bridge Private Limited, **Designation:** Process Leader, **Department:** AXA-PPP, **Employee No:** E223, No.16/2, Prestige Dot Com, Residency Road, Bengaluru 560025 **Also at : Mrs. Asha Seshadri** Flat No:204 Block-5 2nd Moon, Gaana Regency Block-5, Site No.5, Sy No.20/5, Khata No.137, Yelachenahalli Village, Uttrahalli Hobli, Bangalore South, Bangalore 560060	**Loan A/c No. 361342848 Rs.3,85,766/- (Rupees Three Lakhs Eighty Five Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty Three Only) as on 28.02.2026**	**28.03.2026** .... **N.P.A. Date: (e) 04.12.2025**	**Schedule Property :** All that piece and parcel of Property bearing **Sy.No.20/5,** situated at Yelachenahalli Village, Uttarhalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, measuring 0-34 Guntas and duly converted as per the Order of the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore Vide Order No.BDS.ALN.SR(S) 643/2004-2005 dated 19-02-2005 and bounded on: **East by:** Property of Venkatachala Reddy, **West by:** Sy.No.20/4, **North by:** Sy.No.21, **South by :**Sy.No.02 **Schedule-A Property :** All that Piece and Parcel of property bearing **No.20/5,** measuring **14,077.00 Sq.Ft** out of Schedule property **0-34 guntas** in Sy.No.20/5, Rajarajeshwari C.M.C. Katha No.137/407, (Old Katha No.137 and New Katha No.407), situated at Yelachenahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk and bounded on: **East by :** Property of Venkatachala Reddy, **West by:** Road, **North by :** Sy.No.21, **South by:**Road. **Schedule-B Property : 599.55 square feet** undivided right, title and interest in the Schedule-A Property out of **14,077 square feet** in property bearing Sy.No.20/5, Yealchenahalli Village, Uttarahalli Village, Bangalore South Taluk. **Schedule-C Property :** Residential **Apartment No.204,** Second Floor, **"GAANA REGENCY"** constructed on the Schedule A Property bearing Sy. No. 20/5, situated at Yelachenahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore measuring built-up Area of 980 square feet along with One Car parking and Bounded on **East by** :Private Property, **West by :** Road, **North by:** Flat No.203, **South by:** Flat No.205. The flooring of the flat is Ceramic and M.S.Windows.

*with further interest cost, expenses, and charges as applicable incurred till the date of payment and / or realization. If the said Borrower (s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) fail to make payment to **HDFC Bank Limited** as aforesaid, then **HDFC Bank Limited** shall proceed against the above Secured Asset / Immovable Property under Section 13 (4) of the said Act and the applicable Rules entirely at the risk of the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) as to the costs and consequences.

The said Borrower (s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) are prohibited under the said Act to transfer the aforesaid Secured Asset / Immovable Property, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of **HDFC Bank Limited**. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the Act or Rules made thereunder shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

Date : 05.04.2026
Place: Bengaluru

For HDFC Bank Ltd.
Sd/- Authorized Officer of HDFC Bank Ltd. under SARFAESI Act, 2002

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

OPEN TENDER NOTICE NO. BE-29-2025-26-OT-37 (through E-Tendering)

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender for the following work.

SN	Tender No.	Description of work	Approx. Value
1	BE-29-2025-26-OT-37	Annual Maintenance contract for water coolers and AC Plants over Bengaluru Division for 2 years **Period of Comp. (Month) : 24 Months**	Rs. 61,03,512/-

Last date for Submission of bids : **Upto 15.00 hrs on 22.04.2026**

For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/ General/, Bengaluru

PUB/11/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2026-27

Download the **RailOne** app. RailOne is the all-in-one railway app by Indian Railways. Passengers can book reserved tickets, unreserved tickets, platform tickets, and season passes, check PNR status, order food, and access many more services at their fingertips. Use digital payment to book unreserved tickets through **RailOne** app, and enjoy up to a **3%** discount.

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | @SWRAILWAYHQ | @sw_railways

Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation Ltd.

Karnataka One State, Many worlds

(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)

Corporate Office: 5th Floor, Indhana Bhavana, Race Course Road, Bengaluru-09
Tel: 080-42775575 Fax: 080-42775589 website: www.kstdc.co

No:KSTDC/PROC/01/2026-27/24 Date: 04.04.2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation Limited, Bengaluru invites tender from interested bidders **for Supply of Kitchen Equipment's and Other Items for KSTDC Hotel Units.** Tender details are as follows.

Tender No	Description	Last Date & Time for Bid Submission
KSTDC/ 2026-27/ IND0038	Supply of Kitchen Equipment's and Other Items for KSTDC Hotel Units.	**16.04.2026 at 17.30 hrs.**

Interested and eligible suppliers/firms/supplying companies are requested to visit the e-procurement website **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** for tender documents. For further information, please contact Tel: 09240214000 / 09240214001 or Email: **support@eprochelpdesk.com.**

Sd/- General Manager (Admin), KSTDC

बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया Bank of India BOI

MILK COLONY BRANCH

Milk Colony, Malleshwaram West, Bangalore - 560 055.
Phone : 080 22959503 / 22959502
E-Mail : milkcolony.bengaluru@bankofindia.co.in

Ref.: BOI/MLK/ADV/25-26/562 Date : 18.03.2026

NOTICE U/S 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT 2002

To,
M/s. AMMAJI MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGIES
(Formerly Ammaji Technical Grinders), No. 66/1, 5th Main Road,
Near BESCOM Office, 3rd Phase, Peenya Industrial Area, Bengaluru - 560058.
Represented by its proprietor : CC A/c. 849430110000111
Mr. A. Hanumantharaju, No. 508, 1st Floor, 10th Main, Near Police Station,
MEI Layout, Bagalagunte, Nagasandra, Bangalore North, Bangalore - 560073.
Borrower : Housing Loan A/c-849475110000150
Mr. A. Hanumantharaju, No. 508, 1st Floor, 10th Main, Near Police Station,
MEI Layout, Bagalagunte, Nagasandra, Bangalore North, Bangalore - 560073.
Co-Applicant : Housing Loan A/c. 849475110000150
Mrs. Manjula R W/o. Mr. A. Hanumantharaju
No. 508, 1st Floor, 10th Main, Near Police Station, MEI Layout,
Bagalagunte, Nagasandra, Bangalore North, Bangalore - 560073.
Co-Applicant: Housing Loan A/c-849475110000150
Mrs. Lakshmma W/o. Akkanappa
41, Rameshwara Post, Doddaballapur Taluk, Naranahalli,
Doddabalavangala, Bangalore - 561204.
Mr. A. Hanumantharaju (Mortgagor), No. 508, 1st Floor, 10th Main, Near Police Station,
MEI Layout, Bagalagunte, Nagasandra, Bangalore North, Bangalore - 560073.
Mrs. Manjula R W/o. Mr. A. Hanumantharaju (Mortgagor),
No. 508, 1st Floor, 10th Main, Near Police Station, MEI Layout,
Bagalagunte, Nagasandra, Bangalore North, Bangalore - 560073.

Sir / Madam,

At the request made by you, **Bank of India, Milk Colony Branch** (hereinafter referred to as "the Bank") had granted **Cash Credit & Term Loan** facilities with aggregate limits of **Rs. 287.85 Lakhs** to you. We give here under details of advance facility granted by the bank and the amount outstanding dues thereunder as on the date of notice :-

Sl. No.	Nature of Facility	Sanctioned Limit	Date of Sanction	Outstanding Dues
1.	Cash Credit 849430110000111	Rs. 60,00,000/-	09-11-2017	Rs. 63,80,394.59/- plus uncharged interest till date
2.	Term Loan 849470410000165	Rs. 29,00,000/-	11-02-2020	Rs. 16,47,629.90 /- plus uncharged interest till date
3.	Term Loan 849470410000292	Rs. 58,50,000/-	29-03-2022	Rs. 38,74,358.51/- plus uncharged interest till date
4.	Term Loan 849470410000294	Rs. 37,00,000/-	05-09-2022	Rs. 25,96,369.71/- plus uncharged interest till date
5.	SSEPL 849460810000105	Rs. 7,50,000/-	21-11-2023	Rs. 6,05,695.00/- plus uncharged interest till date
6.	Star Housing Loan 849475110000150	Rs. 95,85,000/-	22-03-2018	Rs. 1,00,12,060.00/- plus uncharged interest till date
	Total	Rs 2,87,85,000/-		Rs. 2,51,16,507.71/- plus uncharged interest till date

2. The aforesaid credit facilities granted by the Bank are secured by the following Assets / Securities :-

Cash Credit	Hypothecation of Stocks & Book debts
Term Loans	Hypothecation of Cylindrical Grinding Machine & other machinery purchased out of Bank finance
Cash Credit & Term Loan	EQM of the Residential Property bearing site No. 508, Corporation Khatha No. 1618, Situated at Bagalkunte, Yashwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk in Ward No. 14 of Dasarahalli Sub Division, Measuring 1110 Sq.Feet in the Layout formed by MEI Employees House Building Co - Operative Society Limited and Approved by Bangalore Development Authority, Measuring : East to West 40.00 Feet and North to South (35+25.6)/2 Feet in All Measuring 1110 Square Feet, along with building constructed thereon and bounded on : **East by :** Road, **West by :** Site No. 509, **North by :** Road, **South by :** Site No 507

3. As you have defaulted in repayment of your dues to the Bank, we have classified your account as **Non-Performing Asset** with effect **from 17-03-2026** in accordance with the directions / guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India.
4. For the reasons stated above, we hereby give you notice under Section 13(2) of the above noted Act and call upon you to discharge in full your liabilities by paying to the Bank a sum of **Rs. 2,51,16,507.71/- (Rupees Two Crores Fifty One Lakhs Sixteen Thousand Five Hundred Seven and Seventy One Paisa Only)** along with further interest plus **2.00%** penal interest with monthly rests within a period of 60 days from the date of this notice, failing which please note that we will entirely at your risks as to costs and consequences exercise the powers vested with the Bank under Section 13 of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, against the secured assets mentioned above.
5. While we call upon you to discharge your liability as above by payment of the entire dues to the Banks together with applicable interest, all costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Bank till repayment and redeem the secured assets, within the period mentioned above, please take important note that as per section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act, the right of redemption of secured assets will be available to you only till the date of publication of notice for public auction or inviting quotations or tender from public or private treaty for transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale of the secured assets.
6. The amounts realized from exercising the powers mentioned above, will firstly be applied in payment of all costs, charges and expenses which are incurred by us and/or any expenses incidental thereto, and secondly applied in discharge of the Bank's dues as mentioned above with contractual interest till the date of actual realization and the residue of the money, if any, after the Bank's entire dues are fully recovered, shall be paid to you.
7. If the said dues are not fully recovered from the proceeds realized in the course of exercise of the said powers against the secured assets, we reserve our right to proceed against you before Courts of Competent jurisdiction for recovery of the balance amount due along with all costs etc. incidental thereto from you.
8. Please take note that as per Section 13 (13) of the aforesaid Act, after receipt of this notice, you are restrained from transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise any of the secured assets referred to in this notice.
9. The undersigned is a duly Authorised Officer of the Bank to issue this notice and exercise powers under section 13 of the aforesaid Act.
10. Needless to mention that this notice is addressed to you without prejudice to any other remedy available to the Bank.

Date : 18-03-2026
Place : Bengaluru

For Bank of India,
Chief Manager

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರ ಕಛೇರಿ
ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ.
ದೂ:08232-224195 ಇ-ಮೇಲ್:eepredmandya@gmail.com
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಕಾಅ:ಪಂರಾಇಂವಿ:ಮಂಡ್ಯ:ಸ.ಇಂ-2:ಮಟೆಂಪ್ರ:2026-27
ದಿನಾಂಕ:02.04.2026

ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:59/2026-27

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರುರವರ ಪರವಾಗಿ, ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಂಡ್ಯರವರಿಂದ ಮಳವಳ್ಳಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪಾಂಡವಪುರ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನ ವಿಧಾನ ಸಭಾಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳ ಮೂಲಸೌಕರ್ಯ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಯೋಜನೆ ಮತ್ತು 5054-03-337-0-75-422/423ರ ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ/ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಪಂಗಡ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಅನುಮೋದನೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗೆ ಇಡಲಾದ ಮೊತ್ತ ಗರಿಷ್ಟ ರೂ.84.70ಲಕ್ಷ, & ಕನಿಷ್ಟ ರೂ.20.90ಲಕ್ಷ. ಮೊತ್ತದ ಒಟ್ಟು 3 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ದ್ವಿಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಐಟಂವಾರು ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in, KPP Portal ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ನಿಗಧಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ:18.04.2026ರ ಸಂಜೆ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ. ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಅಥವಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಪಂ.ರಾ.ಇಂ.ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಂಡ್ಯರವರ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/-ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಪಂ.ರಾ.ಇಂ.ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮಂಡ್ಯ,

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಹಿಸನಿ-ಮಂ/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿ&ಎ/010/2026-27

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No. CEE/T&P/SEE-2/2026-27/58-71 Dated : 02.04.2026

BRIEF SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal Only)

KPTCL invites Bids on electronic mode for the following works against following enquiry number on **Partial Turnkey Basis.**

Sl. No.	Enquiry No. and Name of the works
1	**KPTCL/2026-27/SS/WORK_INDENT3570**
	Combined Package for: **Work A:** Providing 2x200MVA, 220/110kV & 1x10MVA, 110/11kV Power Transformers at existing 220kV **Kanabaragi** switching station along with construction of associated 110kV lines for a distance of **8.44kms** using HPC and Lynx Conductor and laying of **110kV, 1200sq.mm XLPE Single Core UG Cable** line for a route length of **0.5kms** and Construction of 02 no's. of 110 kV terminal bays at **110kV Nehrunagar** sub-station in Belagavi Taluk and District. **Work B:** Construction of 220kV LILO line from existing 2nd circuit of 220kV Narendra - Belagavi (Kanabaragi) DC line to the proposed 220kV CTT using HPC and Lynx Conductor for a distance of **12.148kms** and laying of **220kV, 1200Sq.mm XLPE UG Cable** from proposed 220kV CTT to ongoing 220/110/11kV Mache sub-station for a route length of **2.47kms** and Construction of 2 no's 220kV Terminal Bays at **220kV Mache** station in Belagavi Taluk and District.

The bids will be received through electronic tendering mode only. The details regarding participation in the E-tendering process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink "E Procurement KPTCL" or **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **08.04.2026 @ 15:00hrs. Last date & time for receipt of Bids and any extension of Due date for Bid submission will be intimated in the Karnataka Public Procurement portal.** Any details required in this regard can also be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

All Corrigendum/Addendums shall be noticed by the bidders before the last date of submission of the Bids

Sd/- Chief Engineer (Ele.),
Tendering & Procurement, KPTCL, 9th Floor,
Indhana Bhavana, Anand Rao Circle, Bengaluru – 560 009.

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank — MYSORE BANK CIRCLE BRANCH

(A Government of India Undertaking)

Bangalore Water Supply & Sewerage Road, Rajdooth Complex, Mysore Bank Circle, Bengaluru-560002, E-mail: cb10446@canarabank.com

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property) Under Section 13(4)

Whereas The undersigned being the authorized Officer of the **Canara Bank, Mysore Bank Circle Branch ,** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated **27.01.2026** calling upon the Borrower **1.M/S Milan Clothing** No 86/13G ,Sy No 107, Doddabalapura Industrial Area, Bashettihalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bengaluru-561203. **2.Mr.Kalidoss Raju (Partner)** S/o Mr. T Raju Represented By GPA Holder Sri.Raju Haridoss No.787, 19th Main Road, 23rd Cross HSR Layout, 2nd Sector, Bengaluru-560102 **Also Residing At Mr.K alidoss Raju** S/o Mr.T Raju, 5339 Birch Grove Dr Sanjose, CA Cacalifornia United States-095123 **Also Residing At Mr.kalidoss Raju** S/o T Raju Plot No.1351, Kohinoor Residency 16th Main Block, AECS Layout, Begur Singasandra Village, Bengaluru-560068 **3.Hari Doss R** (Partner) S/o T Raju, No.787,23rd Cross, 19th Main Road, Sector2, HSR Layout, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560102. **Also Residing At Mr.haridoss R** S/o T Raju Plot No.1351, Kohinoor Residency, 16th Main Block, AECS Layout,Begur Singasandra Village, Bengaluru-560068 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice of **Rs. 12,72,60,215.99 (Rupees Twelve Crore Seventy Two Lakhs Sixty Thousand Two Hundred Fifteen And Paisa Ninty Nine only) ,** and interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 & 9 of the security interest enforcement rules 2002 on this **01st day of April 2026.**

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **Canara Bank, Mysore Bank Circle Branch,** for an amount of **Rs.13,09,78,201.78 (Rupees Thirteen Crore Nine lakhs seventy eight thousand two hundred one and paisa seventy eight only)** , and interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of section 13(8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of Secured Assets

Name of Title holder : Mr.Raju Kalidoss and Mr.R Haridoss

1) All that piece and parcel of immovable property being Plot No.13G,Basettihalli Panchayath Property No.86/13G, E-khata No.150300301500620424 of Doddaballapura Industrial Area,situated in Sy.No.107 of Basettihalli Village, Kasaba Hobli ,Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru rural District-561203, totally measuring 2016 Sq.mtrs along with shed measuring a built up area of 3660 Sq.feet asbestos sheet, red oxide flooring and the property is bounded on East by : Road, Westby : Plot No.12B, North by : Plot No.13F, South by : Plot No.13H

Name of Title holder : Mr.Raju Kalidoss

2)All that Piece and parcel of the Residential Property No.1351 in A Block bearing BBMP Khata No.873/1351,measuring East to West : 50 Feet (15.243 Meters) and North to South :100 Feet (30.480 Meters), in all measuring 5,000 Sq.feet or 555.55 Square Yards or 464.75 Squares Meters,in the layout formed by Aircraft Employees Co-operative Society Limited in Survey Nos.6/1, 6/2, 8/1, 8/2, 8/3, 8/4, 8/5, 8/6, 10/1, 10/3, 15/1P, 17P, 18, 19, 21/1, 21/3, 22/1, 22/2, 23/1, 23/2, 23/3, 23/4, 23/5, 23/6, 23/7, 23/8, 23/9, 23/10, 23/11, 23/12, 23/13, 25/1, 25/2, 25/3, 25/4, 25/5, 25/6, 26/1P, 26/3, 27/1A, 27/1B, 27/2, 28/1A, 28/1B, 28/2, 28/3, 28/4, 28/5, 29/2, 30/1, 30/2, 31, 32/2, 32/3, 36, 38, 39, 43/1, 44, 46, 61/1, 61/2, 62, 63, 64, 67/1, 67/2, 67/3, 67/4, 67/6, 68/1, 72/1, 72/2, 72/3, 72/4, 73, 74, 75/1, 75/2, 75/3, 75/4, 75/5, 75/6, 75/7, 75/8, 75/9, 76/1, 76/3, 76/4, 77/1, 77/2, 77/3, 77/4, 77/5, 77/6, 78, 79/1, 79/2, 79/3, 79/4, 79/5, 79/6, 79/7, 79/8, 79/9, 80, 81/1, 81/2A, 81/2B, 81/2C, 81/3A, 81/3B, 83, 84, 85, 91/1, 91/2, 94/1, 94/2, 95, 96/1P, 96/2, 96/3, 97/1B, 97/2, 102/1, 102/2, 103/1, 103/3, 103/4, 103/5B, 103/6, 104/2, 105/1P, 105/2, 105/3, 106/1P, 106/2P, 106/3, 106/4, 106/5, 106/6, 109, 111/1 and 111/2 of Singasandra Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore District,in the layout plan approved by the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) as per the order NO.BDA/TPM/DD/1263/1992-93 dated :12.11.1992, together with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface bounded on the: East by : Site No.1352, West by : Site No.1350, North by : Site No.1324, South by : Road

Date : 01.04.2026
Place : Bangalore

Sd/-Authorized Officer
Canara Bank

Ritwik's late strike rescues a point for Jamshedpur

Substitute Ritwik Das scored a dramatic stoppage-time goal as Jamshedpur FC fought back to hold Mohun Bagan to a 1-1 draw in their Indian Super League match at Jamshedpur. Both sides remained on 14 points from seven games after the result and Mohun Bagan's chances of winning the curtailed edition diminished significantly.

NOT SUPER KINGS ANYMORE

Since 2024, there has been a clear decline and the team seems to be running out of ideas

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN
@ Chennai

A MONTH or so ago, there was a whisper within Chennai's cricketing and political circles. The state government, some murmurs said, were eyeing an ambitious bid to buy Chennai Super Kings, an emotion first and a cricket team second for people in this part of the country. It was part of some water cooler talk because there were some links between the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) and the franchise but the latter nipped all talk.

In turn, it has long been suspected that the current owners of the franchise, whose shares have been trading in the grey market for over the last six years, were looking at a possible Initial Possible Offering (IPO). As always, the unlisted shares jumped in the week before the Indian Premier League (IPL) began. It jumped over ₹80 to trade at ₹325 when the 2026 season began last Saturday.

It was a lifetime high, an unusual bull run aided by the valuation of the two IPL sides sold in March.

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Late on Friday night inside the MA Chidambaram Stadium, Stephen Fleming wore a pained expression on his face. It has been an expression he has worn all too often in the last two years. This time, it was about the side's auction strategy. Two matches into a brand new campaign, when you hear the side's chief coach saying 'trust me, we went over everything', there's bound to be a problem. Or, more accurately, a couple of them. On the face of it, one of their biggest issues right now is the identity of their bowling set-up. To be fair to the franchise, one of their designated death over operators, Nathan Ellis, picked up an injury on the eve of the IPL. They addressed that by picking Spencer Johnson, a pacer who has been injured for the last 11 months.

PIC: ASHWIN PRASATH

Replacing one injured player by picking another injured player. This betrayed Fleming's post-match assertions. They clearly didn't 'go over everything'. There were other concerning things in the Kiwi's post-match presser. "Other tournaments around the world, it's not as frantic as this," he said. "I'm not sure how much longer it (the rule) is here for or if it's here to stay. But that certainly changes the dynamic of cricket and probably sways a little bit towards batting power." The 'it' refers to the Impact Player here. Introduced in 2023, it's the same for all teams and most teams know they just have to get on with it because it's here to stay. Teams have packed their line-up with hitters and bashers since the 2024 season as the league has embraced an ultra-aggressive approach. But the five-time champions are still trying to shape-shift. They are learning to walk again while others are about to lap them. Here's an example of this shift. Since the beginning of 2024, CSK are the only team to score at under 9 per over (8.95). In a format where there's a direct correlation between run-rates and success, it's no surprise that the franchise, once famed for marginal gains, is lagging. To put things in perspective, Royal Challengers Bengaluru, their opponents on Sunday, hit at an average of 10.01 per over. Extrapolate that to a match and it's a difference of over 20 runs.

That's the difference between winning or going home.

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Back in the middle 2010s, one of the earliest CSK memes was a play on their consistency. The league's other seven teams would play each other in the league phase to face Chennai in the knockouts. These days, the meme has been slightly tweaked. The league's other nine teams know Chennai is a team they ought to beat. Lads, it's Chennai. Since 2024, the franchise have lost 19 out of 30 games. They possess the league's worst record. Post the 2024 season, when it was evident of the league's shifting sands, Chennai had the chance to redress it in the mega auction.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

SUPER SUNDAY

Another double-header awaits with Sunrisers Hyderabad taking on Lucknow Super Giants before the Royal Challengers Bengaluru and Chennai Super Kings have a go...

Focus on Rishabh

In their loss against Delhi Capitals in their first match, Lucknow moved away from their settled opening pair of Aiden Markram and Mitchell Marsh to promote skipper Rishabh Pant up the order. He got out for seven, reigniting questions over who will open. Can the skipper make the spot his own?

SRH eye another win

The 2024 finalists appear to found their mojo across departments. Their batting unit clicked against KKR, with openers Travis Head and Abhishek Sharma returning to their best. Nitish Kumar Reddy dazzled with an all-round display. So did Harsh Dubey.

RCB continue to thrive

Defending champions RCB will be well rested ahead of a high-voltage clash against a beleaguered CSK. While they have a settled-top order under the watch of Virat Kolhi and Devdutt Padikkal, it is their bowling lineup that RCB has massively improved.

Sanju's form a concern

Chennai's batting needs to improve, despite good outings from Ayush Mhatre and Sarfaraz Khan. It starts with Sanju Samson at the top. The T20 World Cup winner has so far made 6 and 7 in his first two outings for Chennai. Another failure could add pressure.

- SRH vs LSG, Hyderabad @ 3.30 PM
- RCB vs CSK, Bengaluru @ 7.30 PM
- Live on Star Sports and JioHotstar

Glenn feels at home in Gujarat

GOMESH S @ Chennai

WHEN Glenn Phillips landed in India for the bilateral series in January, the Kiwi knew he could be spending almost five of the next six months in the country. It started with the three ODIs, five T20Is and the T20 World Cup followed by two months at Gujarat Titans in the Indian Premier League with a brief break in March. If things go as well as it did for him and New Zealand, Phillips could end up being in India till May 31, which is when the final is set to be played.

Ask him how the past few months have been, Phillips credits the change in scenery (India and Sri Lanka), and formats to keep things interesting. The other thing that has helped the 29-year-old feel at home is the team environment at Gujarat Titans. "As close as it gets to Black Caps," said Phillips, when asked about his time at Titans. The stay has helped him thrive as well.

"Obviously, some parts are better than others," Phillips laughed when asked if he feels Indian at this point. "It's great to have a change of scene again. It's nice that things are ticking over with different kinds of formats. That keeps things interesting. They (Titans) are an absolutely fantastic franchise to be with. I would say in terms of a franchise environment, it's probably the closest environment I've found to the Black Caps environment that we have cultivated over the last couple of years, very much adapted to the scenario," he added.

Phillips was first signed by Gujarat ahead of the 2025 season but a groin injury meant he had to leave midway. This year, he is keen to make the most of the time with the 2022 champions. A middle-order batter whose role is defined by match situations rather than accumulation of runs, Phillips feels that the team management, led by head coach Ashish Nehra, is clear about what is expected of him. That makes his job and preparation easier. "They really make you feel welcomed and at home. The way that Ashish and all the coaching staff go about things, they really make sure that you feel as comfortable in your game as possible. You get everything you need in terms of a preparation perspective. I think my role is very much trying to adapt to whatever the situation requires. It requires me to go out there and play a bit more aggressively because the boys have got off to a really good start and obviously play that role. If the pitches are a little bit more conducive for the bowlers and it's a bit more of a hard-work pitch like it was the other night (vs Punjab Kings on Mar 31) potentially, then for us I guess it's about going around adapting as much as possible and then giving our death hitters and our bowlers as much to bowl as possible. My role is as fluid as it possibly can be. I know Ash has made it quite clear that he knows that I know how to go about different situations. I can play under different kinds of pressures. So he's just asked me to go out and do what I do best and see the scenario for what it is," Phillips explained.

Glenn Phillips of Gujarat Titans | BCCI

Part of feeling at home in Gujarat is the environment created off the pitch by the franchise and the crowd support at the venue. Phillips said even during the T20 World Cup, where New Zealand played India in the final at the New Motera, he had fans cheering for him because of the allegiance with the Titans. "Off the field as well, they're a great group of guys. All the families are around as well. They are incredibly family-orientated, which I think helps the players big time in a tournament like this. Everybody looking out for each other, playing for something that's a bigger than yourself — I think that's the sort of mindset adopted here over the last couple of years. I think it's a fantastic environment to be in compared to potentially other franchises," Phillips said.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Royals beat Titans

AHMEDABAD: Yashasvi Jaiswal (55) and Dhruv Jurel (75) helped Rajasthan Royals post 210/6 before beating Gujarat Titans by 6 runs. **Brief scores:** RR 210/6 (Jaiswal 55, Jurel 75) **bt** GT 204/8 (Sai 73, Bishnoi 4/41).

DC batter Sameer Rizvi (left) celebrates his fifty against MI | SAYANTAN GHOSH

RIZVI, NEW GO-TO MAN FOR CAPITALS

CHANDRA PRABHU @ Chennai

IF Ashutosh Sharma was Delhi Capitals' go-to man in the last season, this year, it could well be Sameer Rizvi. Saturday was yet another example of Rizvi proving his worth as a middle-order batter, rescuing the hosts after an early blip against Mumbai Indians with a 90-run knock that set up their six-wicket win.

Days after guiding his side home from 26/4 against Lucknow Super Giants at the Ekana Stadium, Rizvi was tasked to negate the pressure and help his side chase 163 on a two-paced deck at the Arun Jaitley Stadium. With both KL Rahul and Nitish Rana dismissed in the first two overs, the scoreboard read 7/2 when Rizvi walked in to bat. The UP batter had to take the cautious route to keep the opposition bowlers, led by Jasprit Bumrah, at bay. He then showed that his first knock at Lucknow was not a one-time thing. On a day where spinners called the shots, Rizvi took them to the cleaners. He scored 27 runs off 18 balls against MI spinners, at a strike rate of 150. One part of his ability to hit spin well stems from the practice with his uncle and former cricketer Tankeeb Akhtar. The reward was there to see. He slammed Mayank Markande over long off to bring up his fifty. In the very next ball, he raced down the pitch and lofted the spinner through the line for another maximum. While he took on spinners with ease, his display against the pacers may have given the Delhi crowd something to cheer on — 63 runs off 33 balls came against pace.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

BRIEF SCORES

Mumbai 162/6 in 20 ovs (Yadav 51; Mukesh 2/26) lost to Delhi 164/4 in 18.1 ovs (Rizvi 90, Nissanka 44).

EXPRESS READ

AFI mandates new policy for athletes

NEW DELHI: In an important policy decision, the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) has made it mandatory for the track and field athletes to get its prior approval before entering into agreements with sponsors, including private entities. The AFI said the decision has been taken in view of the increasing instances of athletes and coaches frequently changing sponsors.

Cummins goes back home for another scan

HYDERABAD: Sunrisers Hyderabad skipper Pat Cummins has flown back to Australia for a final scan on his injured back by Cricket Australia's medical team which will give clearance for his participation during the second phase of the Indian Premier League. According to a report in ESPNCricinfo: " Cummins has left the team's camp at IPL 2026 and returned home to have a final scan on his injured back."

Splendid double for Advani and Chitra

LUDHIANA: Ace cueist Pankaj Advani played the big points well under pressure to edge out a fighting Pushpender Singh for a memorable double in his maiden pool Nationals here on Saturday.In the men's final of the 10-ball pool event, PSPB's Advani scored a come-from-behind 11-9 win over his RSPB rival. Later, fellow Bengalurean Chitra Magimairaj rallied to overcome Neena Praveen 6-4 in the women's final.

Sreeshankar leaps 8.15m, wins title

AGENCIES @ Bengaluru

COMPETING for the first time in the season, Murali Sreeshankar leapt a creditable 8.15m to win the men's long jump event at the opening Indian Athletics Series here on Saturday.

Sreeshankar, representing NCOE Trivandrum, got his winning jump in his fourth attempt, his best performance since making a comeback after a knee surgery in 2024. His best of last season was 8.13m. The 27-year-old had missed the 2024 Paris Olympics due to a surgery on his injured knee. He also took part in the Tokyo World Championships in September last year but failed to qualify for the final round. Sreeshankar was the only athlete in the field to breach the 8m mark. Sunny Kumar of Bihar finished second with 7.90m, while Purushotham of Karnataka was third with 7.87m. Ancy Sojan won the title with 6.54m effort while Shaili Singh finished second.

Boxer Vishvanath stuns World No 1 Tashkenbay

ANMOL GURUNG @ Chennai

WITH temperatures dipping below freezing at night and high wind speed, spring in the city of Ulaanbaatar can be harsh for outsiders. It certainly can be a challenge for most Indians. In these challenging conditions, Vishvanath Suresh is thriving. The pugilist from Chennai pulled off one of the biggest wins of his career on Saturday, thereby securing himself at least a bronze medal in the ongoing Asian Boxing Championships in Mongolia's capital. It was also sort of a redemption for the 21-year-old.

The fast-paced boxer stunned World No 1 and reigning world champion Sanzhar Tashkenbay of Kazakhstan 5-0 in the men's 50kg category at the ASA Arena, thereby securing a place in the semifinals. Tashkenbay was someone who had proven to be an ordeal five years ago. The Kazakh boxer had beaten the Indian 5-0 in the final of the 2021 Asian Youth Championship that was held in Dubai.

While Tashkenbay might have gone on to become a world champ (No 1 rank in world rankings) at the senior level, Vishvanath is just a beginner. In fact, this is his first-ever major competition at the senior level. He had earned a spot in the team after impressing the coaches during the national camp. "Vishwanath put on a masterclass. He really outclassed the world champion today. It was also a bit of redemption after an earlier meeting at youth level. He stayed composed throughout and never allowed his rival to get into the fight," India coach Santiago Nieva told this daily.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Haaland hits treble as City crush Liverpool

AFP @ London

ERLING Haaland hit a hat-trick as Manchester City thrashed Liverpool 4-0 on Saturday to reach the FA Cup semi-finals and increase the pressure on Reds boss Arne Slot. Haaland netted twice late in the first half of the quarter-final at the Etihad Stadium and completed his treble after the interval following an Antoine Semenyo strike. With Liverpool trailing by four, Mohamed Salah had a penalty saved by City goalkeeper James Trafford to compound a miserable afternoon for the under-fire Slot.

Liverpool's tame surrender was a bitter blow to Slot, who had to endure chants of "you're getting sacked in the morning" from gloating City fans.

They head to Paris Saint-Germain for the Champions League quarterfinal first leg on Wednesday with Slot desperately needing a victory over the holders.

TAKE A BOW

Quadruple amputee archer Payal on top of world

TANMAY DAS @ Bhubaneswar

PAYAL Nag has added another feather to the cap of India's fabled para-archers. While Sheetal Devi's story is a source of inspiration, the tale of Payal, daughter of migrant labourers Bijay Nag and Janata Nag from Bolangir district in Odisha, would evoke goosebumps.

A play day in 2015 turned into a life-threatening accident in Raipur, Chhattisgarh, when eight-year-old Payal stepped on a live wire. This prompted the doctors to amputate both her hands and legs. On returning to Bolangir, the district administration supported her by providing financial assistance through Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) every year.

Years later, she would go on to be a champion para-archer. On Saturday at the World Archery Para series in Bangkok, she edged past her para-archery idol Sheetal for gold in the women's compound final 139-136. This is not the first time Payal has got the better of Sheetal. In January 2025, Payal won gold ahead of Sheetal at the 6th National Para Archery Championship in Jaipur. She followed it up with a silver at the Khelo India Para Games and another at the Nationals in Patiala earlier this year — both times losing to Sheetal.

Archer Payal Nag

But her foray into archery was not the easiest. It began when a social media post caught the eyes of Kuldeep Vedwan, a coach at the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) Archery Academy in Katra, Jammu & Kashmir — the same place where Sheetal trained. "In 2023, I saw Payal (on social media) for the first time and contacted the person who posted about her. He said Payal was staying in an orphanage in Bolangir district of Odisha," Vedwan told this daily. "I personally visited the place and requested them to take her along with me to the academy. But they denied," he said.

Chanchal Rana, who was the district collector then, had recalled how Payal's friends in the orphanage showed her the videos of Sheetal for about a week after which she expressed her desire to train at the academy in Jammu and Kashmir, recalls Rana. That way, Vedwan, after writing to Rana, was able to take Payal to his academy.

One of the first things Vedwan did was developing and installing a special equipment — approved by the World Para Archery Federation — onto her. Then Payal, inspired by Sheetal and a blind archer, dreamt of being on top of the world. "After coming across a blind archer, she thought nothing is impossible," the coach added.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Divya, Vaishali register first wins in Candidates

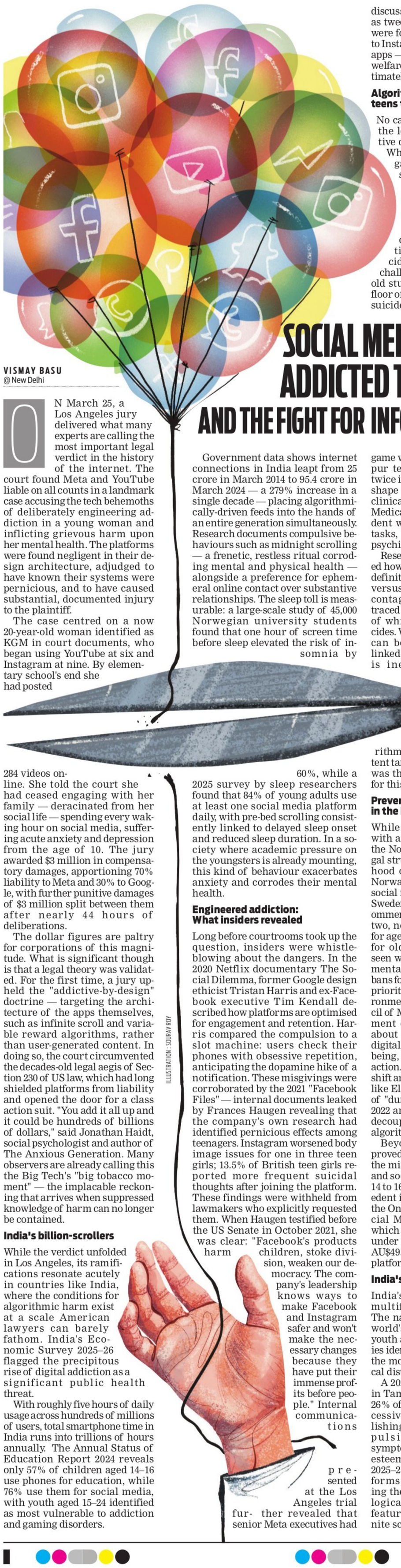
AGENCIES @ Chennai

DIVYA Deshmukh and R Vaishali kept alive their chances of catching Anna Muzychuk with timely wins in the women's Candidates in Cyprus on Saturday. Deshmukh and Vaishali, who were still searching for their wins after five rounds, capitalised on errors by their opponents.

Both games were more or less equal after the opening but the Indian duo had time in the bank. It was vital as they were playing with the black. It suggested there wasn't any nasty surprises for them on the board. Once they got to the middle game, they gradually improved the position. Even if it wasn't outright winning, Deshmukh punished the Kazakh player's one blunder in the 40th move. Six moves later, she had resigned to hand the Indian her first win.

Meanwhile, in Open section, Javokhir Sindarov won a fifth game to open a 1.5 points lead over Fabiano Caruana, who could only draw Andrey Esipenko. **Results:** Open: J Sindarov bt Wei Yi, R Praggnanandhaa drew with H Nakamura, A Giri drew with M Bluebaum, A Esipenko drew with F Caruana. **Women:** D Deshmukh bt B Assaubayeva, R Vaishali bt K Lagno, Tan Zhongyi drew with A Goryachkina, A Muzychuk bt Z Jiner

Meta and Google decided to file appeals. Meta said: "Teen mental health is profoundly complex and cannot be linked to a single app."



SOCIAL MEDIA GIANTS, ADDICTED TEENAGERS, AND THE FIGHT FOR INFORMED CHOICE

VISMAY BASU
@ New Delhi

ON March 25, a Los Angeles jury delivered what many experts are calling the most important legal verdict in the history of the internet. The court found Meta and YouTube liable on all counts in a landmark case accusing the tech behemoths of deliberately engineering addiction in a young woman and inflicting grievous harm upon her mental health. The platforms were found negligent in their design architecture, adjudged to have known their systems were pernicious, and to have caused substantial, documented injury to the plaintiff.

The case centred on a now 20-year-old woman identified as KGM in court documents, who began using YouTube at six and Instagram at nine. By elementary school's end she had posted 284 videos online. She told the court she had ceased engaging with her family — deracinated from her social life — spending every waking hour on social media, suffering acute anxiety and depression from the age of 10. The jury awarded $3 million in compensatory damages, apportioning 70% liability to Meta and 30% to Google, with further punitive damages of $3 million split between them after nearly 44 hours of deliberations.

The dollar figures are paltry for corporations of this magnitude. What is significant though is that a legal theory was validated. For the first time, a jury upheld the "addictive-by-design" doctrine — targeting the architecture of the apps themselves, such as infinite scroll and variable reward algorithms, rather than user-generated content. In doing so, the court circumvented the decades-old legal aegis of Section 230 of US law, which had long shielded platforms from liability and opened the door for a class action suit. "You add it all up and it could be hundreds of billions of dollars," said Jonathan Haidt, social psychologist and author of The Anxious Generation. Many observers are already calling this the Big Tech's "big tobacco moment" — the implacable reckoning that arrives when suppressed knowledge of harm can no longer be contained.

ILLUSTRATION : SOURAV ROY

India's billion-scrollers

While the verdict unfolded in Los Angeles, its ramifications resonate acutely in countries like India, where the conditions for algorithmic harm exist at a scale American lawyers can barely fathom. India's Economic Survey 2025–26 flagged the precipitous rise of digital addiction as a significant public health threat.

With roughly five hours of daily usage across hundreds of millions of users, total smartphone time in India runs into trillions of hours annually. The Annual Status of Education Report 2024 reveals only 57% of children aged 14–16 use phones for education, while 76% use them for social media, with youth aged 15–24 identified as most vulnerable to addiction and gaming disorders.

Government data shows internet connections in India leapt from 25 crore in March 2014 to 95.4 crore in March 2024 — a 279% increase in a single decade — placing algorithmically-driven feeds into the hands of an entire generation simultaneously. Research documents compulsive behaviours such as midnight scrolling — a frenetic, restless ritual corroding mental and physical health — alongside a preference for ephemeral online contact over substantive relationships. The sleep toll is measurable: a large-scale study of 45,000 Norwegian university students found that one hour of screen time before sleep elevated the risk of insomnia by 60%, while a 2025 survey by sleep researchers found that 84% of young adults use at least one social media platform daily, with pre-bed scrolling consistently linked to delayed sleep onset and reduced sleep duration. In a society where academic pressure on the youngsters is already mounting, this kind of behaviour exacerbates anxiety and corrodes their mental health.

Engineered addiction: What insiders revealed

Long before courtrooms took up the question, insiders were whistleblowing about the dangers. In the 2020 Netflix documentary The Social Dilemma, former Google design ethicist Tristan Harris and ex-Facebook executive Tim Kendall described how platforms are optimised for engagement and retention. Harris compared the compulsion to a slot machine: users check their phones with obsessive repetition, anticipating the dopamine hike of a notification. These misgivings were corroborated by the 2021 "Facebook Files" — internal documents leaked by Frances Haugen revealing that the company's own research had identified pernicious effects among teenagers. Instagram worsened body image issues for one in three teen girls; 13.5% of British teen girls reported more frequent suicidal thoughts after joining the platform. These findings were withheld from lawmakers who explicitly requested them. When Haugen testified before the US Senate in October 2021, she was clear: "Facebook's products harm children, stoke division, weaken our democracy. The company's leadership knows ways to make Facebook and Instagram safer and won't make the necessary changes because they have put their immense profits before people." Internal communications presented at the Los Angeles trial further revealed that senior Meta executives had discussed capturing users as young as tweens, noting that 11-year-olds were four times as likely to return to Instagram as users of competing apps — a wanton disregard for the welfare of children that the jury ultimately found iniquitous.

Algorithm pushes teens to the edge

No case more vividly illustrates the lethal potential of exploitative digital design than the Blue Whale Challenge — an online game that propagated through social media targeting teenagers with a 50-day series of escalating self-harm directives, culminating in an injunction to take their own lives. Throughout 2017, Indian media documented multifarious cases of child suicide and self-harm linked to the challenge. In Mumbai, a 14-year-old student jumped from the fifth floor of his building. In Kerala, two suicides were closely linked to the game within the same year. A Jodhpur teenager attempted suicide twice in a week, and had carved the shape of a whale into her arm. A clinical case report from Gauhati Medical College documented a student who completed 40 of the 50 tasks, including self-harm, before psychiatric intervention.

Researchers subsequently debated how many Indian suicides were definitively linked to the challenge versus those produced by media contagion. A systematic review traced approximately 50 incidents, of which 21 were completed suicides. Whether or not every death can be verified as directly linked, the underlying truth is ineluctable: algorithmically-amplified content targeting the vulnerable was the delivery mechanism for this harm.

Preventive governance in the Nordics

While American courts grapple with accountability after the fact, the Nordic countries have built legal structures that prioritise childhood over engagement metrics. Norway has proposed prohibiting social media for children under 15. Sweden's public health agency recommends no screen time before age two, no more than one hour daily for ages 2–5, and two to three hours for older cohorts. Denmark has seen widespread municipal implementation of school smartphone bans following national guidance to prioritise "analogue" learning environment. In 2024, the Nordic Council of Ministers issued a joint statement expressing grave concern about the "pernicious effects" of digital platforms on children's well-being, pledging coordinated policy action. The results of this cultural shift are tangible: Swedish retailers like Elgiganten reported that sales of "dumb phones" tripled between 2022 and 2024 as parents sought to decouple children from addictive algorithms.

Beyond the Nordics, Spain approved a draft law in 2024 to raise the minimum age for data consent and social media registration from 14 to 16. Australia set a global precedent in November 2024 by passing the Online Safety Amendment (Social Media Minimum Age) Act, which prohibits accounts for those under 16 and imposes fines of up to AU$49.5 million for non-compliant platforms.

India's slow regulatory response

India's own body of problems is multifaceted and documented. The nation maintains one of the world's highest suicide rates for youth aged 15–29, with recent studies identifying this demographic as the most vulnerable to psychological distress.

A 2024 study of college students in Tamil Nadu revealed that over 26% of adolescents engaged in excessive social media use, establishing a direct link between compulsive consumption and symptoms of anxiety and low self-esteem. India's Economic Survey 2025–26 explicitly notes that platforms design algorithms targeting the 15–24 age group's psychological vulnerabilities through features like auto-play and infinite scroll.

BUILD AWARENESS — **ARNIKA,** COO Social Media & Matters

The Los Angeles verdict makes one thing absolutely clear that harm is no longer incidental to social media, it is embedded in design. In India, where millions of young users come online without adequate safeguards, the conversation must urgently shift from content moderation to accountability for addictive design systems. Informed choice is not a luxury but a right. The solution is not to remove them from technology, but to equip them with the awareness and agency to navigate it and to demand accountability from the platforms shaping their realities.

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